

HALESOWEN CHRONICLE



Thursday, August 29, 2013

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Aiming for fun

Haden Hill becomes a warzone for re-enactors

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Saunders speaks

Why I should have been given more time at Wolves

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Picture of teen crash victim, 19 released



Killed - Thomas Oakes

THE first picture of a tragic motorcyclist, killed when his bike smashed into railings, has been released.

Thomas Oakes, aged 19, died when the blue Yamaha bike he was riding hit metal railings at the junction of Amber Way and Coombs Road in Halesowen on Saturday at about 6.50pm.

Devastated relatives of the Halesowen teenager have not commented following his death.

Meanwhile, friends of the teenager have flooded social media websites with tributes. Nellie Povey wrote: "He was one of the nicest young men I knew, and I'm honoured to have had him as a good friend."

Alex Dudley wrote: "Very proud to have called Tom a friend. R.I.P bro." He added: "It makes you realise how short life can be." Sergeant Neil Higgins said: "It doesn't appear any other vehicles were involved or that anyone else was injured in the collision."

Canal work deadline set

BOSSSES at Dudley Canal Trust are hoping to start work on both phases of a £3.3 million visitor and heritage centre by the end of the year.

They say they are 'quietly optimistic' that a bid for £997,000 of European funding for the scheme will be successful. The attraction has already been awarded £989,200 for the scheme from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

SECOND RAID BY YOBBS AT CENTRE

by Andrew Turton

VANDALS have attacked a pensioners' day centre in Halesowen - making it the second raid to take place at the site within a week.

Around £3,000 worth of damage has been caused at the Age Concern Day Centre in the latest raid.

Bins swap chance to be offered

RESIDENTS in Dudley will be able to ask for smaller wheeler bins for their household rubbish if they don't have enough to fill a standard one, under new rules.

Around 40,000 homes across the borough are being given a grey 180-litre wheeler bin for their non-recyclable waste - which is expected to hold the equivalent of three black bags.

But residents who have less rubbish can swap their bin for a smaller 140-litre one. Part of the council website says: "If once the bin has been delivered, residents feel the bin is too large, there will be an option to request it to be changed for a smaller 140L bin."

"Before arranging a 'bin-swap', residents should consider the extra waste which they're likely to produce at certain times of the year such as Christmas."

It is the first phase of a wider project which will see bins rolled out to all 128,000 homes in the borough before spring next year. Households in some areas of Quarry Bank, Netherton, Coseley and Halesowen have been among the first to receive their bins.

Yobbs ripped off locks to steal a power washer and battery chargers for the centre's minibus, which is used to transport pensioners around. They also managed to force their way into the vehicle to turn on the radio, which drained the battery.

It is hoped the minibus will be back on the road soon. Volunteers have called in help from a nearby garage.

It is the second time in around seven days that the centre, in Green Lane, has been targeted. Intruders burst into the centre itself, which serves meals for 40 pensioners aged from 65 to 100 each day, last Monday, stealing cash, raffle prizes and causing £6,000 of damage.

Food bought to cook meals was also taken from fridges and freezers by thieves who then urinated on anything they could not carry.

Centre director and Halesowen Councillor Ken Turner described their actions as 'sickening' and vowed to tighten security further.

New alarm and CCTV systems were installed at the centre, which re-opened last Thursday after being shut for three days.

The latest attack happened sometime between Friday evening and yesterday morning when volunteers arrived to open up.

Vandals also damaged wheelchairs stored in the sheds. "This is sickening to happen again for the second time in a few days," said Councillor Turner.

Volunteers clean up with fundraiser



Jordan Edgar, David Matty, Alan Bower, Afia Sirkhot from McDonald's, Wayne Edwards, Georgie Melia, Calem Gardner and Alex Burton pool their manpower to wash a car to raise funds for next month's Great Black Country Run

BUCKETS and sponges were at the ready as scouts and rotary club members made a splash as they held a car wash to drum up support for this year's Great Black Country Run.

The fundraiser took place at McDonald's in Halesowen to promote the event, which takes place in the town on September 22.

There will be a 5k fun run and a 10k road race to appeal to runners of all ages and abilities. It is being organised by Halesowen and Rowley Regis

Rotary Club. Members were joined by youngsters from Howley Grange Scouts for the car wash to raise awareness of the event.

Together they washed dozens of vehicles with the help of Lye firm SYR which donated the necessary equipment. They also collected donations which will be given to the Scout group.

Rotarian and event director Alan Bowler said: "The day went very well. We washed lots of cars and we handed out flyers to promote the run. We are

grateful to McDonald's for their support." Mr Bowler added that it had been confirmed that Halesowen-born kickboxing champion Simon Akufu would be starting the run.

The Great Black Country Run will benefit a range of good causes, including Sunfield School in Clent, Midland Air Ambulance, MacMillan Nurses and Birmingham Children's Hospital's cancer unit. For further information on the event visit www.greatblackcountryrun.com

Statue of two lions stolen in house raid

A DISTINCTIVE bronze statue of two lions and electrical equipment has been stolen from a house near Halesowen.

Burglars struck at the property, in Bromsgrove Road, Hunnington, while its owner was away.

The statue was worth £300.

Other items taken were two coal-effect electric fires, valued at £400, a flat-screen Panasonic TV worth £400, a £150 horizontal surround system and a DVD player worth £60.

A Canon camera was also stolen. Pc Paul Lettis said the burglary had taken place between July 29 and August 12.

"Hunnington is quite a small village and we would like to hear anyone who saw suspicious activity between those dates or who has been offered any of the stolen property for sale," he said.

"In particular people may have seen the statue of the two lions and the wall-mounted coal effect fires which are fairly unusual items."

Witnesses, or anyone with information, are asked to call Bromsgrove CID on the non-emergency 101 number.

People can also pass details on anonymously to the Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555 111.

Hippo group in costs plan

A CAMPAIGN group fighting to save Dudley Hippodrome is planning to slash potential running costs by up to 80 per cent by seeking charitable status.

The move would help the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome reduce business rates for running the Castle Hill theatre and boost its plans to reopen the venue.

The trust would be able to claim an exemption from tax on most forms of income and capital gains, if they are applied to charitable purposes.

Group members believe they would shave cash off the £39,732 paid out in business rates before the bingo hall shut in 2009.

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Engineers go full steam ahead for stardom



TM workers pose with the Hairy Bikers

AN ENGINEERING firm has taken a starring role in helping to recreate the largest steam locomotive in the country on a television show.

TV chefs-turned-engineering enthusiasts Dave Myers and Si King, known to fans as the Hairy Bikers, stopped off in Kingswinford to film a segment of their show Restoration Road Trip.

It aired on Sunday on BBC2. The pair arrived at TM Specialist Engineers, based in Oak Lane, to help forge two huge wheels for the project to reconstruct steam train famously known as The Night Owl.

The two large locomotive wheels were machined for the project. Specialist engineers at the firm used

CNC machine tools to replicate the machining of the cast wheels for the locomotive.

Managing Director of TM Specialist Engineers Robert Holland said he was delighted to be a part of such a fantastic project. "It was great to have the Hairy Bikers down here and they also had a tour around the firm too to see what else we do," he said. "The finished product is a wonderful testament to their skill and craftsmanship."

The work has been overseen by project engineering manager Paul Carpenter who is also one of the leading engineers for the project run by the Great Western Society.

More than 40 jobs go in Challinors collapse

FORTY-SIX redundancies have been made after West Midland law firm Challinors went into administration, it has emerged.

The firm, which had offices in Halesowen, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton, had debts totalling about £11.4million.

Some of the company's 200 strong staff across its seven sites have found jobs with other law firms which have taken on some of Challinors' business.

Birmingham firm Clarke Willmott has bought some of the private client and commercial litigation teams.

Stephen Rosser, chief executive at Clarke Willmott, said: "Growing our Birmingham offering is part of our three-year strategy. Our main priority is to ensure a seamless transition for Challinors' clients and we will be working with the administrators and Challinors' partners in order to achieve this."

Another Birmingham firm Shoosmiths has also taken a large part of the Challinors' operations.

Tightening

Partner and head of private client Richard Follis said: "This is an important and very experienced team, and their joining demonstrates Shoosmiths' commitment to this challenging and highly specialist field of work."

Administrators said a tightening of financial regulations in the legal industry, as well as the reduction in government funding, had left the company with debts of about £11.4 million.

Joint Administrator Andrew Hosking said: "A number of staff have joined those two firms."

He said it was possible that the Halesowen office, Hyfield House in Hagley Road, might be sold to another local firm, but it was unlikely that buyers for the other offices would be found. The firm's personal injury

by Heather Large

work has already been sold to Liverpool firm SGI Legal for an undisclosed sum.

Mr Hosking said that the Solicitors' Regulation Authority had been very supportive of the partners in recent weeks and Challinors had engaged a number of consultants leading up to going into administration.

"We have been very pleased by the efforts to date," he said. "The partners have been very good and the authority has been wonderful and given a great deal of assistance."

"Challinors, like other firms in the legal profession, has faced a tightening of financial regulations. In the economic downturn they have also faced a situation where their revenues have been capped or reduced in areas like legal aid," he said.

Challinors, which has 12 partners, owes money to about 250 creditors including almost £500,000 to Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs. It was set up as Challinor & Roberts in 1948, then merged with West Bromwich firm Lyon Clark in 1996 to form Challinors Lyon Clark. They later acquired Halesowen firm White & Billingham in 2009.

Challinors, which was ranked as one of the top legal firms in the West Midlands, acquired Wolverhampton private law practice Sheltons Solicitors in July 2009.

Chain firm vital link Val retires



MD Tim Burgess with Val Tromans who is retiring from William Hackett Chains Ltd

A WOMAN who worked with three generations of famous Black Country chain makers has retired after 56 years.

Val Tromans from Halesowen worked at William Hackett Chains Limited in Maypole Fields, Cradley, during which she has seen the once heavy industry replaced by modern processes.

She began her time in the office in 1957 after leaving Castle College in Dudley when she was hired as a receptionist for the firm.

Over the years she worked her way up the company ladder and eventually became the

financial controller. She said: "I have really enjoyed my time at the company and always loved my job."

The 71-year-old grandmother of two is now looking forward to her retirement and enjoys walking and keeping fit.

Managing Director Tim Burgess has headed the historic firm for the past eight years. He said that Val would be sadly missed by staff and clients.

He said: "She's the face of William Hackett. It's going to be very hard to replace her."

Armed raid prisoner in escape gets jail increase

AN INMATE serving an eight-year jail term for an armed robbery in the West Midlands, who escaped from prison by scaling a fence, has been locked up for an extra six months.

Daljeet Dhadwal, of Kidderminster Road, Stourbridge, was sentenced in January 2011 after terrorising a couple and their three children when he burst into their home in Handsworth, Birmingham.

But Wolverhampton Crown Court heard he got out of the HMP Sudbury open prison in Derbyshire by climbing over the perimeter fence on March 5 this year. The 34-year-old was on the run for four months but was found out when he was arrested for shoplifting.

He was picked up on July 5 after stealing from a branch of Holland and Barretts in Birmingham – but originally gave false details. However, police soon found out his real identity.

Mr Sarbjit Singh Lalli, defending, said Dhadwal had been an 'ideal prisoner' and had been well-behaved until the escape.

Closure due during work

A ROAD in Rowley Regis will be closed for a day so a defective manhole can be replaced.

Halesowen Street is set to be closed from 9.30am to 3.30pm on September 2, and only part of the road will be affected by the closure.

Vehicles will be prevented from travelling between Bassano Road and the roundabout located at the entrance to the supermarket. Traffic will be diverted along Bassano Road, High Street, Long Lane, Homer Way and Halesowen Street.

Vegas sounds coming to club

AN EVENING of music from The Rat Pack, Elvis Presley, Tom Jones and The Drifters is being held tonight. Blackheath Conservative Club, is playing host to vocalist Ian Casey's take on The Rat Pack and The Best of Vegas, kicking off at 8.15pm.

Mr Casey can regularly be heard as the vocalist with The Phoenix Big Band. Tickets for the night are available for £4 on the door, at the venue on The Causeway, Blackheath.

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Nuisance bikes will be seized, say police

POLICE will seize scrambler and mini moto-type bikes in a new crackdown following complaints about riders tearing around a disused quarry in Kinver.

Residents living near the site off Gibbet Lane have reported problems with riders causing a nuisance in the area.

Officers from Staffordshire Police said in recent weeks people had been accessing the quarry site to ride the bikes. On one occasion police turned several men away from the site who were all in possession of off-road bikes and mopeds looking to ride around.

They were warned, if they were caught again in 12 months, their vehicles would be confiscated.

They are increasing patrols at the site over the coming weeks and will be stopping people driving or riding in an inconsiderate or careless manner.

Ch Insp Donna Gibbs, from South Staffordshire local policing team, said: "The warmer weather and longer days are often accompanied by a rise in reports about vehicle-related antisocial behaviour.

Staffordshire county and Kinver parish councillor Brian Edwards said he welcomed the crackdown.

"It has been problem there for many years, I'm pleased that police are doing patrols there because it does cause a lot of noise nuisance for residents," he added.

Park revamp cash on way

THOUSANDS of pounds will be spent on revamping a park in Wordsley with community volunteers preparing to unveil plans for their new attraction.

Campaigners have long called for King George V Park to be rejuvenated after concerns it was untidy with litter strewn around fields and flowerbeds.

They had also voiced fears the park, off Lawnswood Road, was becoming a hangout for youths.

But the Friends of Wordsley Park group say they are excited as they prepare to reveal the latest redevelopment plans drawn up with youth associations and sports clubs. Around £40,000 will be spent on creating a new sensory garden for children.

New-look resource and maths centre unveiled



The new centre called Dudley Enhance, set to be built

A NEW artist's impression of a resource and maths centre which is being built as part of the multi-million pound redevelopment of Dudley College has been unveiled.

The picture was released as bosses revealed work on the scheme has been brought forward. Education chiefs say there has been a higher than expected uptake of courses following the success of its new sixth form centre Dudley Sixth, which opened in September.

More than 1,000 students have applied for a place at the centre, off Ednam Road, this year bringing it to capacity level. As a result work will now start on Dudley Enhance, which will provide specialist courses for post

16 students studying maths, next month. The modern building will be situated between the existing Dudley Sixth and the planned new engineering and manufacturing centre Dudley Advance which will open in autumn 2014.

Dudley College principal Lowell Williams said: "After receiving over 1,000 applications this year from bright, young people applying to study A-levels in the fantastic new facility, the two storey building is expected to be at capacity."

"With 150 returning second year students and up to 350 new learners just setting out on their A level studies, the new Enhance facility is essential to provide the right learning environ-

ment and resources to support our students."

He added: "Dudley Enhance will definitely live up to its name. It's been designed to enhance our A-level students' learning experience and provide them with the facilities and space they need."

"The new building will be a fantastic addition to the Learning Quarter. When both Dudley Enhance and Dudley Advance, our new centre for advanced manufacturing engineering and technology, are complete, this area of Dudley will be transformed into a vibrant, modern campus equipped to develop the next generation of brilliant minds and skilled employees."

Metal thief targeted the gates of charity premises

A METAL thief who stole dozens of cages, drain covers and even the gates of a cancer charity has avoided a jail sentence.

Jason Reynolds travelled around the region targeting cages belonging to Tesco Express, Waitrose and One Stop Shop, as well as gates at Marie Curie Cancer Care.

His two-month crime spree was brought to an end when police received information about a suspicious vehicle shortly before 3am on March 7.

Mr Nicholas Burn, prosecuting, said: "A blue Nissan van belonging to Mr Reynolds had cages belonging to Tesco to the value of £300."

"The defendant would use his vehicle to go to various establishments and load it up with cages and covers and sell them on to scrapyards."

Addiction

The court heard Reynolds had acquired 49 metal cages, 12 drainage covers and two gates over the three months, to the value of £6,500.

Mr Andrew Baker, defending, said he had stolen the items to fund his heroin addiction.

Reynolds, aged 29, of Beaubrook Gardens, Wordsley, pleaded guilty at Wolverhampton Crown Court to

by Adam Grinsell

five counts of theft by finding between January 26 and March 7.

In March, at Dudley Magistrate Court, he was sentenced to 12 weeks in prison, suspended for 12 months.

Judge Martin Walsh said: "You have got a drug problem and that is the catalyst for your behaviour."

"These offences were dishonest and caused a considerable inconvenience over a period of time."

"You thoroughly deserve to go into custody. I am not optimistic but I am prepared to give you a chance."

"If you do not take this chance you are going to prison."

Reynolds was handed a 12-month prison sentence suspended for two years and made the subject of a 12-month drug rehabilitation requirement.

He was also ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £100 and will be under curfew from 9pm to 6am for four months.

Fun day brings in £11,000

A PUB'S annual fun day in aid of a hospice attracted hundreds of revellers – and raised at least £11,000. Sunday's event was held at the Crown in Hagley Road, Oldswinford.

Money raised brings the total amount made by the fun day for Mary Stevens Hospice over the last few years to more than £73,000. Publican Chris Foxall hosts the event, which this time featured local bands Version and the Starving Rascals, a bouncy castle and face-painting.

Family party marks Florence's 100th



Florence Taylor marks her 100th with relatives including nephews Philip and Colin Taylor, kneeling right, great-great-nephews and nieces Micah Edwards, Hannah and Caris Edwards along with Jonah and Isaac Walding, on the left

IT WAS three cheers for centenarian Florence Taylor who was the guest of honour at a family party to toast her milestone birthday.

She has been living in Colley Gate, Halesowen, for the past six years after moving to the Black Country from Reading. To mark her 100 years, many of her relatives travelled to visit her to celebrate the occasion which was complete with a special cake and a letter from the Queen.

She was born on August 20, 1913 in Reading where she lived in the same house for 94 years before moving to Two Gates House care home in Colley Gate in 2007 to be closer to her nephew Phillip.

During the Second World War, she served with the Women's Royal Naval Service, known as the Wrens, and was based in Aberdeen and Dunfermline. After moving south, she began working in the geography department at the University of Reading and later for the BBC's monitoring service.

She never married but Miss Taylor, who is also known as Florrie, is very close to her three nephews and niece as well as her 15 great-nephews and nieces, 21 great-great-nephews and nieces and 23 great-great-great-nephews and nieces.

Many of her relatives joined her to celebrate her birthday and she said it had been 'lovely' to see everyone.



Florence, in uniform, after the Second World War

NEWS

in brief

Mayor urges event support

THE MAYOR of Dudley is urging people to show their support for the heroes of the Battle of Britain at a special event on September 15.

The day will include a service at St Thomas and St Luke's Church, known as Top Church, a parade by borough Air Training Corps through the town centre and the laying of wreaths at the cenotaph in Ednam Road, Dudley.

Councillor Alan Finch, Mayor of Dudley, said: "I hope people will be able to come along on the day and show their support."

At 11am cadets from the borough's Air Training Corps will parade through the town centre. Setting off from Priory Road, the parade will continue along New Street, into High Street. Residents are invited to attend a service at St Thomas and St Luke's Church at 11.30am.

Jobs project in final of awards

A PROJECT set up to help fill health jobs in the Black Country has been announced as a finalist in a top awards ceremony.

The Learning Works project was set up following a review of how vacancies at Sandwell, City and Rowley Regis Hospitals and Sandwell community health services are filled.

The project was designed to sustain recruitment and succession planning to encourage local people into long term careers in the health service.

It has now been announced as a finalist in the workforce category of the Health Service Journal awards.

The award winners will be announced at a special ceremony on November 19.

Stolen cycles found in room

A MAN has been jailed for six weeks after he admitted handling goods stolen in a series of shed and garage break-ins.

Two mountain bikes worth £800 and a remote-control car worth £50 were found in a bedroom at Tommy Smith's home in Linden Avenue, Walsley estate, Stourport.

They had been stolen during break-ins in Beach Road and Princess Way, Stourport.

The 33-year-old admitted handling stolen goods and was jailed by Kidderminster magistrates.

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NEWS

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



THIS was the week when two men and two women living in Sheffield went public on their "polyamorous" relationship. One man has sex with both women, the women have sex with each other and the men are great chums. This jolly web of relationships appears to suit them all very well. The word "polyamorous" has appeared in the Oxford English Dictionary since 2006, defined as: "The fact of having simultaneous close emotional relationships with two or more other individuals, viewed as an alternative to monogamy, especially in regard to matters of sexual fidelity; the custom or practice of engaging in multiple sexual relationships with the knowledge and consent of all partners concerned." The Sheffield Four are planning 'an unofficial ceremony' to mark their commitment to each other. You can see where this is leading, can't you? Why stop at an unofficial ceremony? Now that 2,000 years of religious tradition have been re-written with the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act and the first gay marriages will soon be held, can anyone offer a single convincing reason why marriage should not be extended to groups of three, four or more people? I know I can't. Polyamorous weddings – coming soon to an altar near you.

□□□□□□□□

HERE'S one for the conspiracy theorists. Can it be coincidence that the BBC unveils its wildlife series *The Burrowers*, portraying baby badgers as the sweetest oohms-snookums adorable little chappies, just as the Government begins killing badgers in its "trial culling" programme?

□□□□□□□□

THE *Burrowers* involved digging three enormous artificial burrows, at licence-payers' expense, to observe the intimate lives of badgers, water voles and rabbits. So it is, literally, a ground-breaking programme. Get it? Educated people have always recognised the use of 'literally' as a device to brighten up one's conversation and writing. Sadly, educated people are in the minority these days which is why the Oxford English Dictionary has reluctantly accepted that 'literally' can be used for extra emphasis to mean, well, like, literally anything, innit? All languages evolve but this isn't evolution. It's an admission that the English no longer understand English.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Expert in plea to bee careful for the future

APPLES, oranges and pears would vanish from the shelves of the supermarkets. Owls and hawks would become extinct. A shortage of clover in farm fields would send meat and dairy prices through the roof.

These are just some of the problems envisaged by Stourbridge bee expert John Harding, who paints a bleak picture of life a generation from now, should the honeybee continue to decline at its present rate.

by Mark Andrews

"Well over 100 products would disappear off the Sainsbury's shelves straight away," said Mr Harding.

"There will be a mass shortage of pollinated food, you would lose all the top fruits like apples and oranges right away, but you would also lose all the small mammals which feed the birds of prey."

Survive

These are not good times for the honeybee. A recent survey by the British Beekeepers Association (BBKA) reported that a third of honeybee colonies did not survive the winter, and the number of bee colonies lost across England has more than doubled since 2012 – from 16 per cent to 34 per cent this year. This is the worst set of results since the BBKA started its annual survey of members six years ago.

But if the scenario outlined by Mr Harding sounds a long way in the future, we are already feeling the consequences of the decline of the honeybee at the moment. At the moment, the fall in honeybee numbers is estimated to be costing UK farmers £200 million a year, the loss of which will inevitably be passed on to the consumer through higher food prices.

So what – or who – is responsible for the plight of the honeybee? It is generally agreed that the varroa mite, which arrived in the UK in 1992, has had a devastating contribution. Not only does the parasite suck blood from the bodies of honeybee larvae, pupae and adult bees, it has also been blamed for the spread of numerous diseases.

More controversially, a group of agricultural pesticides, known as neonicotinoids, have also been blamed for bee losses.

But Mr Harding – a beekeeper for the last 33 years – said the real culprits are people like him. Beekeepers. He added that the downfall of the honeybee began many thousands of years ago, when man first discovered honey. "Man took bees away from their survival needs and honeybees started dying," he said.

He argued that when man first discovered honey, the bees were living high above the ground, in places that were difficult for man to reach.

Mr Harding's findings are the result of 16 years' work. Now a 63-year-old grandfather, he retired from commercial beekeeping in 1997 to devote all his time to his research.



John Harding, from Stourbridge, highlighting the importance of bees

Accessory firm still tops with car maker

BRIERLEY Hill-based Auto Styling Truckman has renewed its agreement with Toyota GB to become an approved supplier of accessories for the Hilux range of pick-ups.

The Narrowboat Way firm manufactures a range of hardtops and is also a major distributor of a wide selection of vehicle accessories.

Toyota's Hilux was the best-selling pick-up truck in the UK in 2012, with sales of 7,460. This year, it continues to lead the market. The relationship between Toyota GB and Auto Styling Truckman has grown out of an initial agreement to supply Truckman High Roof Classic hardtops. As Toyota has grown Hilux sales amongst commercial and leisure buyers, Auto Styling has created a range of hardtops specifically for the Hilux.

Mike Wheeler, managing director of Auto Styling Truckman, said: "We have enjoyed an excellent relationship with Toyota GB and our hardtops have become popular with Hilux owners in both commercial and leisure markets."

Kevin Ledger from Toyota GB said: "The pick-up truck market continues to be a key area of our business and it's important to be able to provide our customers with a comprehensive service, which includes access to a broad range of excellent accessories, which complement our existing range."

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Drive ban for father who drank

A FATHER of two was caught drink driving after he drove home to Stourbridge late at night from a funeral, a court heard.

Wayne Jones was more than twice the legal limit when police stopped him while driving a silver Ford Transit van. Dudley Magistrates Court heard police had received information Jones was over the limit.

A passing patrol car saw the van on Highgate Road, Holly Hall, Dudley, and he was stopped at Bushy Fields Road near to Russells Hall Hospital at 1.30am on July 23. Jones gave a positive test of 82 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath, when the legal limit is 35. Police also found a small quantity of cannabis.

Jones, aged 42, of Bagley Street, pleaded guilty to drink driving and possession of a class B drug. He was fined £100 for drink driving and £100 for possession of drugs. He was ordered to pay £85 court costs and a £20 victim surcharge. Jones was banned from driving for 20 months.

Eight new staff at estate agents

A WEST Midlands estate agents, which has offices in Stourbridge, has taken on eight new staff to help it expand its services over coming months.

Marwood Homes Ltd, part of the John Shepherd Lettings Group, has made the appointments follow the business's recent rebranding.

Students celebrate a bumper crop of borough GCSE marks

STUDENTS and teachers in Dudley were celebrating achieving another bumper crop of GCSE results across the borough.

Nervous pupils rushed to schools and colleges last Thursday, ready to open their envelopes after weeks of tension following the end of their exams.

But there were concerns from some schools that altered grade boundaries had impacted on results and could risk students' chances of securing their favoured college places.

Among the schools which saw an upwards trend in A* to C results was Bishop Milner Catholic School, in Dudley, which achieved 74 per cent, up from 70 per cent last year, Kingswinford Academy which achieved 72 per cent, up from 70 per cent, and the Summerhill School, Kingswinford, which recorded 78 per cent up from 75 per cent.

Staff at The Dormston School, in Sedgley, which had recently been classed as inadequate by Ofsted inspectors, were pleased with an increase in the pass rates to 55 per cent, up from 36 per cent last year. At Holly Hall Academy, in Dudley, staff declared their pride at results despite fierce concerns over grade boundaries that they said had resulted in 28 students missing out on a grade C in English.

Overall the school achieved 39 per cent grade A* to C including English and maths. But principal Graham Lloyd said a deci-

by Simon Stone

sion by the education chiefs not to tell the school what pupils had to score to achieve top grades has 'screwed with their lives and futures'.

"I think that what they have done is nothing short of disgraceful," he said. "It is playing politics with children's futures. Students at Old Swinford Hospital were jumping for joy after producing some outstanding results, in particular three students who were awarded eight grade A*."

The percentage of results awarded at A* to C grades in five or more subject including English and Maths was 71 per cent. George Hadfield, from Belbroughton, and Blake Lewis from Stourbridge both achieved eight grade A* and two grade A, while Sam Russell from Kinver achieved 6 grade A* and 3 grade A.

A record breaking set of GCSE results were announced by Ellowes Hall Sports College, in Lower Gornal.

Joy for youngsters in best year ever



Windsor High pupils, from left, Charlotte Duerdon, Megan Chance, Shaun James, Daniel Bevan and Chadsley Atkins

THERE was much cheer among students at a Halesowen school, after it recorded its best ever results.

Pupils started arriving at Windsor High School, in Richmond Street, from 9.30am, last Thursday, as the tension mounted.

In total, 74 per cent of students got

five A* to C grades including maths and English, up 14 per cent from last year. In single subjects, 87 per cent of students achieved A* to C in English and 80 per cent in maths.

Head teacher Keith Sorrell was at the school congratulating pupils on their success. He said: "These are our

best set of results and a tribute to the hard work of everyone involved.

"My congratulations to all of the students and staff on such an outstanding set of results. When added to our excellent A-level results performance this has been a fantastic year for the school."

NEWS

in brief

Awards scheme call on buildings

A NATIONAL award recognising buildings which have made a difference to local people and communities is looking for nominations from the West Midlands.

The Civic Trust Awards, which launched in 1959, is one of the oldest award schemes in Europe.

From cafes and churches to housing and hospitals, the Civic Trust has rewarded more than 5,500 buildings and spaces.

Dudley's regeneration chief Councillor Judy Foster said: "I hope that local people see fit to nominate local projects."

All entries should be made online at www.civictrustawards.org.uk before September 11.

Park weekend of scarecrows

A HOST of scarecrows will be descending on a Black Country park - and everyone is invited to take along one of their own.

Staff at Haden Hill Park in Cradley Heath are holding a scarecrow weekend next month, and residents are asked to make their own for the weekend on September 14 and 15.

The event will run on both days from 11am to 5.30pm, and there will be live music, a barbecue, a birds of prey display, a climbing wall and line dancing.

Entries will be accepted until Friday September 6.

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NEWS FEATURE

IN MY VIEW

WITH
MARK
ANDREWS

READ this and weep. The disused Round Oak pub in Brierley Hill is a disgrace.

A building of some architectural merit due to its interesting Art Deco features, it now lies derelict and has become a target for arsonists since it closed more than 20 years ago.

Businessman Jon Thompson wants to spend £200,000 renovating this building so he can operate a home furnishing shop from the site, but says his plans are being thwarted by the 'impossible' demands by council officials.

Charging points for electric cars and parking for motorcyclists, not to mention showers and a changing room for people wanting to cycle to work, are among the wackier requests the council has made.

Mr Thompson has now been told that a decision should be made this week, so hopefully the matter will finally be put to bed.

But suppose Mr Thompson went along with all this nonsense. Are we to expect hordes of motorcyclists zipping through the streets of the Black Country with flat pack furniture strapped onto their backs? Probably not. Will there be a stampede of folk wanting to charge their electric cars while they browse the range of occasional chairs?

The explanation given by Councillor Miss Judy Foster, who I had always considered to be a thoroughly good egg, is as depressing as it is familiar.

Maintain

"With regard to the electric car charging points and shower facilities for staff cycling to work, this is part of our ongoing work to promote more sustainable ways to travel to work," she says.

Of course it is. That sentence just sums up what is so wrong with local government today.

The role of the local council is not to influence how we get to work. It is not to tell us what we should eat. The role of the council is to maintain the roads, keep our streets tidy, and to empty the bins. Without nosing around to check we aren't putting the wrong sort of rubbish in them.

And when a business plans to spend £200,000 renovating an eyesore property, smartening up an important approach to a struggling town centre, and creating 10 jobs, the council should be rolling out the red carpet, not dishing out lectures on 'sustainable transport to work'.



Shuffling the pack in front of you



Pick a card out and Mark will be pick able to name it



Coins and other items are also used in Mark's tricks

Magician who aims to make his Mark

A present at the age of seven started Mark's passion for magic, as he explains to **CHARLOTTE LILLEY**

IT started with a Paul Daniels magic set at the age of seven and now 23 years later, Mark Willis is performing his own tricks as a part-time magician.

The 30-year-old estate agent from Dudley has been a fan of magic ever since his grandfather introduced him to it as a child.

Since then he has performed to hundreds of people at weddings and parties across the region. He says: "My grandfather gave me the magic set as a present and from that moment on I was hooked."

"As a child I would put on shows for my all family and friends and I used to love seeing their reaction. I enjoy performing, and entertaining people and making them laugh, even if it's at my own expense."

Amazed

"These days I rarely go anywhere without a deck of cards. I perform at weddings, birthdays, clubs and private parties and it is great to see people look amazed and hear them say 'how does he do that?'"

Mr Willis, who works for Connells Estate Agents in Wolverhampton, juggles his performances around work and often practises on his friends and colleagues.

"My boss is a big fan of magic and whenever we have a work party, he asks me to bring some of my equipment along to entertain people," he says.

"There isn't an age limit on magic and I think it is becoming more and more popular, especially with people like TV magician of the moment, Dynamo, putting



Now choose one - Mark never travels anywhere without his pack of cards

it back in the spotlight. Sometimes I even get people ask me to perform some of his tricks and walk through walls or levitate.

"I tend to look up to magicians such as Houdini and Dai Vernon, who were able to captivate people's imaginations with their tricks."

"I read a lot of their material to get some ideas and I try to include some of their skills in my act."

Unlike Paul Daniels, you won't find any bunny rabbits hopping out of hats or a glamorous assistant resembling the lovely Debbie McGee, being sawed in half in Mr Willis' act.

Magic Mark, as he goes by when he is

performing, prefers to show off his tricks up close in front of people.

"I like tricks where you make something change hands or places. It really baffles people when they see it happen right before their eyes and they instantly want to know how it is done," he says, "but of course a good magician never reveals his tricks."

"My girlfriend would never put herself forward to be my assistant and she definitely wouldn't let me attempt to saw her in half. She is very supportive of me and she much prefers to take a back seat and watch rather than take part."

Mr Willis spends time working on

new tricks after work and during the weekends and says he wouldn't rule out a performance on Penn and Teller's hit TV show Fool Us.

The ITV magic show challenges magicians to perform in front of the American duo and if they can fool them with one of their tricks, they win a five-star trip to Las Vegas to perform as their opening act.

"I have considered going on Penn and Teller to see if I could fool them, although it looks really difficult because they are just so good at what they do," says Mr Willis.

"At the minute I am working on a new trick and I have a feeling it might puzzle them if I ever got the chance to perform it in front of them."

But even the greatest of magicians can sometimes get it wrong and Mr Willis admits he is no exception.

He says: "Sometimes you might perform a trick to a group of people and it does not go as well as you had hoped."

Mistakes

"People might see or realise how you did something but like anything in life, you learn from your mistakes, have a little laugh at yourself and move on and later you can figure out ways to improve."

So what's next in his box of tricks? Can we ever expect see him on a world stage performing his mind-bending tricks to thousands?

He says: "If I ever had the opportunity to become a full-time magician and if I could afford it, then I would take it."

"However, I enjoy performing at weddings and parties and I enjoy my job as an estate agent. I am lucky that my family and friends are so supportive of me and I am thankful that they let me practise my tricks on them."

THROUGH THE YEARS

1983...

SENIOR police officers in Staffordshire were over the moon after their summer activities SPACE programme attracted nearly 22,000 children. Organisers said the project, aimed at improving police relations in the community, was an out-of-this-world success.

HORDES of West Midlands holidaymakers heading for the coast were left disappointed after the weathermen got the forecast badly wrong. Travellers were expecting glorious sunshine but were instead presented with grey skies and pouring rain.

THREE men were forced to make an emergency landing after their hot air balloon drifted perilously close to the M6 at Walsall. Pilot Phil Clarke and his two passengers escaped unhurt after he managed to steer the balloon into the grounds of Alunwell Comprehensive School.

1993...

FOUR Coseley households were hit by a blunder by Dudley Council planners who sent letters about a proposed superstore to the wrong addresses. Planning chiefs sent letters to homes in Redwood Road by mistake, leaving residents of Winnall Close unaware of the development.

HIMLEY Cricket Club batsman Steve Small scored a 'match-winning' century with a difference to clinch his engagement to his girlfriend Nicola. Steve smashed 101 runs after his future father-in-law told him he had to score a century to win Nicola's hand in marriage.

FEATHERS flew at a Rowley Regis pub when a 'cock fight' was staged as part of a family fun day. But licensee Robin Hancock avoided falling 'fowl' of the law as he and his business partner did the fighting in 6ft wide inflatable costumes.

2003...

AN emergency meeting was held in Wolverhampton's Mander Centre to discuss ways to allay elderly people's fear of crime. The move followed the results of a survey which showed four out of 10 older people were too afraid to enter the city centre.

TWO brothers who ran a model shop in Dudley for nearly 44 years called it a day. Bill and Charles Dixon introduced generations of youngsters to the joys of modelling through their Ace Models store in the Fountain Arcade.

PERTON residents were warned to expect six months of chaos while a £1.1 million flood defence scheme was put in place. Severn Trust decided to expand the sewer systems in a bid to prevent the flooding that had blighted homes in the village for years.

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LETTERS

Fracking may open up possibilities

LET'S be honest, nobody will know the full effect of fracking until it's actually carried out in the UK.

We can't learn a great deal from the US, but reports of gas coming out of taps, aquifers polluted in other ways and earth tremors need to be heeded.

We should scrutinise all information/propaganda both pro and anti.

The US film, Gasland which purports to show the dire results of the process, shows gas coming from a kitchen tap resulting possibly it seems, not from fracking but from the homeowner's water well having been drilled into a pocket of naturally occurring methane.

We cannot have the inevitable New

Age Luddites telling us whether we should go for this possible mother load or not.

I do not think that the loonies presently setting up camp down South and going through the usual tree hugging rituals have anything to do with the discussion.

Similarly, the RSPB, whose members don't seem to mind having the local bird population chopped to pieces by flailing windmills have come out against the project.

This is something that should be tested scientifically and under extreme controls to see whether it might result in Armageddon or a new golden age for the UK.

Furthermore, if we do go ahead, I hope our wise and canny leaders will ensure that the British Exchequer receives a healthy wad of cash and puts in place more rigorous controls on pricing so that we see the effect in our bills.

I would add that if these professional anti-everythings had been around and allowed to flourish a couple of hundred years ago, we might never have had the Industrial Revolution.

The Black Country is honeycombed with old coal, iron ore and limestone mining and yet we are still here, living, breathing and moaning as we do.

ALAN M ETHERIDGE,
Catholic Lane, Sedgley.

Let's put PC idiocy in its place

AS a nation I think we should lighten up a bit.

BBC summariser John Inverdale caused a storm in June when he was said to have made an inappropriate comment about the Wimbledon ladies singles champion, but at the same time he was very much full of praise for her ability, but that side of his comments were ignored.

More recently we had some more commotion about UKIP Euro MP Godfrey Bloom referring to Bongo Bongo Land when attempting to make a point about how much we give away in foreign aid that got blown out of all proportion by the politically correct brigade.

Not surprisingly the BBC appear to be making sure women are not under represented on their front line workforces. We've even got women reading the football results now. Whatever next?

A P CUFF,
Grayling Road,
Stourbridge.

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle
Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton
WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

Dudley.chrons@
expressandstar.co.uk

Ragwort ravaging the local landscape

IN RECENT years our countryside and urban areas have become a haven for ragwort. This long stem yellow daisy cluster is growing everywhere.

Highways and landowners do little to get rid of it and it is now seen growing in towns and cities. It is very toxic and can cause liver failure to animals who eat it dried.

Bees love the flowers as do other insects and we wonder if it gets into local honey supplies and even grain crops. It needs pulling and burning. There is a fine of £1,000 if landowners let it get out of hand but little is done and no action taken.

Over the years I have written to Wyre Forest Council and councillors but still little is done. It isn't just growing in Wyre Forest but is widespread in most counties.

Those without a job could help to keep the countryside free from this weed the future we will all be living in a weed bed.

M WOOLDRIDGE,
Bewdley.

Spanish set out their stall

THE sabre rattling by the Spanish Government over Gibraltar is of course a classic diversionary tactic to switch the attention of their populace away from the parlous state of the Spanish economy.

Given the importance of tourism to that economy, before engaging in any more inflammatory action, it would be well advised to reflect on the wisdom of alienating the millions of British tourists who visit Spain each year.

KEITH DAVIS
Holly Close, Kinver.

Care praise

On a recent appointment at Corbett Hospital, my mother had the misfortune to have a nasty fall outside. Help and assistance was at hand immediately. I was told to carry on to my appointment and was constantly informed of my mother's condition and that she was being attended by a paramedic. Thank you to all concerned. God bless you all.

S BRADLEY,
Sedgley.

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NEWS

Bravery award for dog after fall



Lynda Jennings, of Halesowen, at the dog show with Noah, the pooch that fell from the balcony of a block of flats

Injured pup's vet bills top £1,800

A PUPPY which fell 20ft from the balcony of a block of flats, is being cared for by members of a welfare charity in Halesowen, following his star showing at a fundraising dog show.

Young Noah the Staffordshire bull terrier is now being wheeled around in his own makeshift buggy after being left unable to walk following the ordeal.

He has so far endured two operations to plate and pin his broken hind leg which have cost Black Country animal charity Wild Acres around £1,800 in vet bills. But the loveable pup was one of the stars of an annual fun dog show held in Great Barr - even

scooping an award for his bravery. Hundreds of dogs of all shapes and sizes lined up for the Paws in the Park event at Red House Park organised by the park's friends group and dogs charity K9 Search UK. But it was the tale of Noah's battle back to health that pulled at the heartstrings of judges who named him best rescue dog at the show.

Wild Acres volunteer Lynda Jennings, aged 36, said Noah had been discovered lying on the floor outside a tower block in Perry Barr, Birmingham, by passing ambulance paramedics four weeks ago.

The puppy, thought to be around eight months old, was taken to Manor

Vets, in Halesowen, to be cared for by staff. He had snapped the fibula bone in his back right leg and vets faced the agonising decision whether to put him down.

But the vets practice works with Wild Acres to rehome pets and when the volunteers heard about Noah's predicament they helped stump up the cash to pay for the operations.

He has been living with Lynda at her home in Halesowen while he recuperates but even she says he faces an uncertain future. "He has a lovely temperament and he is a fantastic dog who just wants to kiss you all the time," said the mother of two.

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NEWS

Tunnels scheme to mark start of tourist complex

Pair revved up for future



Steve and Sue Shaw who have set up Premier Motorcycles and Scooters

A COUPLE have worked full throttle to set up their own motorcycle business following their return to the Black Country after three years living in Morocco.

Steve and Susan Shaw, both 56, of Sedgley, took inspiration from Mr Shaw's long-standing passion for motorbikes and decided to open a

business of their own. The couple opened Premier Motorcycles and Scooters Ltd, at Prospect Row, Dudley, recently.

Mrs Shaw said: "Steve has loved motorbikes since he was 16 so we decided to launch our own business. "It has been a lot of hard work but we are very proud."

PLANS to turn historic tunnels into a museum are only the first phase of a much bigger scheme to transform the site into a major tourist hub, it has been revealed.

Quercus Ilex SA, which owns Drakelow Tunnels between Kinver and Wolverley, has submitted proposals for the museum to Wyre Forest District Council.

But an agent for the company today said the scheme was only intended to be 'phase one' of planned improvements for the site.

Owners also plan to create a nature walk giving greater access to a listed monument and views over the escarpment where the tunnels are built.

Houses

The Baxter Monument is an obelisk built in the mid-19th century by William Hancock in honour of 17th century preacher Richard Baxter.

There are also plans to eventually restore a series of rock houses at the site which are close to the tunnel entrances. Two groups of houses are on the site - nine to the east on two levels which are almost intact along with some shallow overgrown cave houses which extend down the hillside to the west.

Agent for the owners Sarah Gauntlett Shea said the aim was to get the museum set up and generating money before embarking on other improvements.

"The museum represents phase one of what my client hopes to do with this historically very important site," she said.

"Eventually it is hoped work will take place at the rock houses as well to restore them. Obviously all of the plans are still in their early stages at the moment."

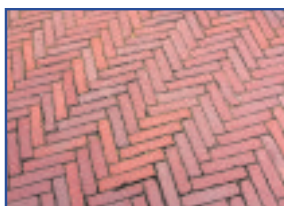
The tunnels were excavated during the Second World War and used to manufacture machinery to be used in the conflict.

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NEWS

Arson-hit youth hub is likely to be demolished

Golden days celebrated



Tony and Rita Davies celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary

A GOLDEN couple have celebrated 50 years of married bliss with their family.

Rita and Tony Davies, of Pensnett, were 15 and 17 when they caught each other's eye at the Round Oaks Steelworks Club in Brierley Hill.

"We got talking and arranged to go out the following evening," said Mrs Davies, now aged 66.

And sparks flew for the couple who were later married at Dudley Register Office on August 8 1963.

They have three sons - Martyn, Brett and Lee - as well as six grand-daughters and a grandson. The couple also have a great-grand-daughter.



The wedding day

A YOUTH hub which was damaged during an arson attack at a Dudley charity will have to be demolished, devastated bosses have said.

Managers at St Thomas's Network in Kates Hill have been left shattered by the blaze which caused thousands of pounds of damage.

The youth building at the community centre in Beechwood Road was gutted by the fire two weeks ago and bosses say it is beyond repair and will have to be knocked down. They have also renewed their appeal for firms and individuals to help provide CCTV cameras.

These would be used to help protect the site from further attacks. The charity has been able to use other rooms at its base so it could continue to provide its youth activities during the summer holidays.

Security

Jennifer Gregory, from the charity's senior management team, said: "Because of the extent of the damage, the building will have to be knocked down."

"We are carrying on with our youth provision using different rooms. We are still looking for anyone who can help with security."

The youth building had housed new equipment and table tennis tables for teenagers to use during weekly events.

Insurance assessors will analyse the damage. It is thought to have been caused after vandals broke in through a window.

Steve Walther, chairman of the board of trustees at St Thomas' Network, said the charity group provided 'a lifeline' for people who were living in what is one of the Dudley borough's most deprived areas.

Mr Walther said he hoped Dudley Council might be able to offer advice and support over what the organisation can do to aid its youth operation in the meantime.

Anyone who is able to help can contact 01384 818990.

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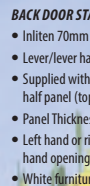
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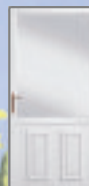


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NEWS

Dramatic start for pair setting up own theatre

A DRAMATIC duo from the Black Country are making their mark in the world of performing arts by setting up their own theatre company.

Will Phipps and Rachel Coleman from Dudley recently graduated from the University of Wolverhampton after studying for a musical theatre and performance industry degree. Rather than take up the regular nine-to-five routine the pair decided to make it on their own by setting up Funtime Theatre.

Their small business puts on plays at care homes and childcare centres in the region. Having both known each other from their time at High Acrel School in Sedgley the duo say they have developed a strong working relationship.

Rachel said: "Theatre is something we are both really into and we thought we should turn it into a business and give it a go.

The response has been great in the area and we have already done around 20 shows at care homes since starting earlier this year."

The pair, both aged 23, are currently doing sessions at the Wacky Warehouse and at the One and Two Halves Pub on the Wolverhampton Road in Oldbury.

She added: "It's been really good so far, the children really enjoy the shows."

Their unique business also works with social groups and clubs offering specially tailored shows including everything from light entertainment to educational shows. They also provide workshops and classes on drama and dance to primary and secondary schools. Previous shows including Songs that Won the War, which features hits from the 1930s and 40s.



Will Phipps



Rachel Coleman

Views on estate aired



Members of the public at the High Acres pub during the recent meeting

RESIDENTS vowed to fight for improved play facilities for their children on their Black Country estate as they formed an action group to lobby for new developments.

People living on the former Wordsley Hospital site are calling for improvements to the housing estate despite many families only starting to move in five years ago.

Mixed views are held over what future public developments should take place on the site, off Stream Road, to benefit residents.

Young families want the introduction of a new playground where parents said parks were too far from homes on the estate. They were also

concerned that many children had begun playing in the streets around the estate, sparking fears for their safety with parked cars and traffic.

But some older residents are concerned a new playground would attract anti-social behaviour and instead asked for alternatives.

Around 30 residents attended a public meeting at the High Acres pub organised by Wordsley councillor Derrick Hemmingsley last Monday to air their views. They have formed a new residents association to take their proposals to Dudley Council.

Council architects will work on designs for the playground ahead of the next meeting on October 7 at the pub starting at 7pm.

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Final phase of sports and housing scheme to include learning centre

PLANS for the final phase of a £2million sports and housing scheme in Halesowen, which includes a new playing field and learning centre, have been lodged.

Developer St Modwen has completed work on a new pavilion for Coombs Wood Cricket Club and is putting the finishing touches to new homes in Coombs Road.

Now it wants to begin work on the third stage of the project which will include a new grass sports pitch, multi-

by Heather Large

use games area and an outdoor classroom at Olive Hill Primary School. Bosses say the scheme will provide 'much needed play and recreational and learning facilities' for the pupils.

Lessons

The sports pitch will measure 177ft by 88ft and there also be a hard-surfaced games area.

An early years learning centre will be created which will also have a climbing frame area.

The 'forest school' will allow pupils to have lessons outside and learn more about the plants and wildlife on the nearby Coombeswood Green Wedge.

This outdoor area and the sports pitches could be made available for use by visiting schools or local clubs.

The developer's planning application says: "The proposals are for new outdoor playing and learning facilities for the school."

"The school has recently increased in size following the amalgamation with Holt Farm School and has recently constructed new extensions to the teaching

area and as such, the external 'playing area' is under severe pressure and new facilities are urgently needed."

Coombs Wood Cricket Club moved into its new £1m pavilion earlier this year.

It was built on a five-acre site off Stewarts Road, on the Coombeswood Green Wedge, and features meeting rooms, a bar, kitchen and changing rooms.

Meanwhile outside there is a pitch, some practice nets and a bowling green.

The club had outgrown its former clubhouse in Coombs Road but was unable to invest in the site to update facilities due to a short lease.

MP issues call over speed of broadband

Dudley North MP Ian Austin has criticised Government plans for superfast broadband, he says will leave large parts of Dudley out. Smethwick, West Bromwich, Halesowen, Black Heath and Stone Cross are also to miss out on speed upgrades under the scheme.

The project will see the superfast broadband delivered to 95 per cent of the country.

Mr Austin has written to Business Secretary Vince Cable, urging him to ensure that Black Country families and businesses are not missed.

He said: "Constituents got in touch with me after being told by broadband companies that Dudley wouldn't be seeing superfast broadband for years."

"The Government promised to bring higher speeds to 95 per cent of the country, and local businesses need to be able to operate at the same speed as those elsewhere, but they're not going to hit that target here in the Black Country."



MP Ian Austin

Sue says adios for glass mission



Talented glass artist Sue Parry at the Ruskin Glass Centre in Amblecote who is off to Mexico for four

A GLASS artist is saying 'adios' to the Black Country to travel to Mexico for a four-month creative sabbatical.

Sue Parry, from Stourbridge, will be working with artists in Guanajuato, which is 7,000ft up in the Sierra Madre Mountains and described as cultural and artistic centre.

She will setting off on her trip in October and has organised a summer sale at her studio based at the Ruskin Glass Centre in Amblecote to help fund her travels.

Her speciality is sand-casting where molten glass is poured into a mould and takes up colours and textures and can then actually be handled at 1,200C with heat-resistant gloves to be manipulated into exotic shapes.

She said: "The vibrancy of the colours, the costumes and the art in Mexico will inspire a whole new exciting collection in 2014 that I will be creating in my local studio."

"I am going to be working with ceramic artists and do some painting. It will be good to have a break from my studio and create a new body of work," she added.

She will be flying to Los Angeles and then driving the 2,000 miles to Guanajuato.

Sue, aged 50, moved from Windsor to Stourbridge in 2003, and studied at The National Glass Centre in Brierley Hill, after abandoning a high-flying job as a treasury analyst at Honda to start a completely new career in glass-making.

Courses are on the climb at leisure site

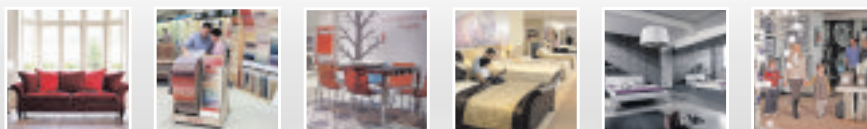
A LEISURE centre is offering new climbing courses starting next month. Crystal Leisure Centre in Stourbridge will run the sessions on their great indoor climbing wall.

Beginners and experienced climbers can get training, with a chance to gain the National Indoor Climbing Award Scheme, which accredits achievements in climbing, as well as offering development in the sport.

Junior classes for those aged between nine and 15 are between 6.45pm and 7.45pm, and adult classes for those 16 and over are from 7.45pm to 8.45pm. The cost for one term is £72.80 for junior classes, and £87.10 for adults.

The courses start on September 11 and run for 13 weeks. Participants will need their own climbing shoes but essential equipment is provided. Call 01384 812800.

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• MERRY HILL SHOPPING CENTRE

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FOCUS ON CRADLEY HEATH AND OLD HILLIf you have any news stories or pictures from this area let us know.
Email: tom.mason@expressandstar.co.uk or call 01902 319466**Free trips on offer along the canal in group event**

THERE will be an opportunity for people from Old Hill and Cradley Heath to mess about on the water this weekend.

Free trips are being offered for families down the Dudley No 2 Canal in Halesowen.

Charity Groundwork West Midlands is holding a fun day at Chancel Way in Halesowen on Saturday, between 10am and 3pm which will include face painting, balloon modelling and a mini zoo.

The fun day is being held in conjunction with the Coombeswood Canal Trust to celebrate recent work Groundwork West Midlands have been doing on behalf of the Dudley Canal Trust to improve the local canal environment as part of the Big Lottery's Changing Spaces Fund.

Chris Leech, project co-ordinator for Groundwork West Midlands said: "We have been working with Dudley Canal Trust to deliver many improvements along the canal, and as a result it is now good to see local people enjoying the peaceful quality environment."

As part of the improvements local artist Luke Perry was also commissioned to install 24 pieces of art along the towpaths. The canal improvements also form part of the Making Tomorrow Different challenge set by Groundwork which aims to improve open spaces equivalent to 20 Olympic Parks by the time of the next games in Rio.

The boat trips are expected to last about one hour and free refreshments will be provided for everyone on board. To book boat trip places contact Chris Leech on 0121 530 5525.

Celebrations as group marks 10th year helping youngsters in sport

VOLUNTEERS for a charity which helps disabled children in Cradley Heath have been celebrating the organisation's 10th birthday.

The milestone was reached by Sandwell Parents for Disabled Children which gets disabled youngsters based throughout the borough, including Old Hill and Rowley Regis, involved in all sorts of sporting and leisure activities.

by Simon Stone

Parents and youngsters celebrated the big birthday with a range of attractions on offer during a family fun day which took place on August 15.

Organisers hailed The Tipton Sports Academy event a 'huge success', as it was attended by more than 200 people, with Sandwell's deputy mayor and Rowley Councillor Barbara Price there as special guest alongside the deputy consort Councillor Robert Price.

Fantastic

Diane Rai, Manager of SPDC said: "The day was a huge success, summing up SPDC's aim of families having fun together."

"We all had a fantastic day."

"It is a huge achievement for SPDC to have reached its 10th anniversary and I am confident that given the amount of support for the organisation we can continue to go from strength to strength."

"My heartfelt thanks go to all who have made today, and the

last 10 years, a huge success." Sandwell Leisure Trust's Sports development officer Mandy Williams, said: "There was a great turnout to the event with children enjoying the wide variety of activities that were available."

"We really enjoyed working with the charity and look forward to working with them again on some exciting new projects that are already being planned."

SPDC is a local charity supporting disabled children and young people to get involved in play, leisure and sporting activities and was started in 2003 by a committed group of parents.

Since then the charity has gone from strength to strength and now provides a huge range of activities enjoyed by over 200 disabled children and their families.

For more information visit Sandwell Parents for Disabled Children's website www.spdc.org or call 0121 544 8880.



Sandra Evans, Brenda and Cliff Enever and, at the front, Antoon Jansen in costume

US Civil War targeted with House event

VISITORS to Haden Hill House in Cradley Heath were given a glimpse of life on the battlefield during the American Civil War.

Members of The Anglo-Boer War Staffords re-enactment group were on hand to help people step back in time at the weekend.

There were lively displays including a mock battle for crowds to watch. And there were also demonstrations in rifle firing and marching.

The group uses blank-firing weapons authentic to the period and pyrotechnic displays during battle re-enactments to make them as realistic as possible. The re-enactment group has carried out demonstrations in Sandwell before but it's the first time they have focused on the American Civil War.

It is one of a number of events taking place at the attraction during the summer months. There will be Proms in the Park on September 8 between 3pm and 8pm.

It will include music from the Martinique Jazz Band, easy listening songs with Ian Casey during the afternoon and early evening, followed by rousing tunes from Halesowen Brass Band.

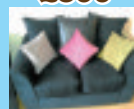
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The holiday includes 13 nights bed and breakfast accommodation in specially selected three and four-star hotels, three evening meals and a variety of stunning excursions.

For most visitors the highlight will be a full day's game drive that brings the chance to see the sweeping savannah and muddy waterholes lined with animals, and to marvel at the incredible 150 mammal and 500 bird species that live in the Kruger National Park, including the 'big five': elephant, lion, rhino, leopard and buffalo. Rooms are reserved at the three-star superior Hippo Hollow Country Estate, located in the midst of lush forest on the banks of the Sabie River. It's open-air terrace overlooks the grounds and river, so watch out for the hippos!

Those interested in history will be intrigued by the visit to Zululand, passing through Swaziland en route, to reach the haunting battlefields of Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift. In 1879 these two battles, just a day apart, became a defining moment for the British Empire and the specialist Zulu guide will make those desperate encounters come alive.

A well-organised schedule of tours combined with free time in Cape Town, Johannesburg, in Knysna on the coast and at the Kruger National Park means everyone will experience the very heart of South Africa on this 16-day adventure.

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- Tours of Zulu battlefields, Featherbed Nature Reserve, Cape Point
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* various according to departure date please go to website for the latest prices

NEWS

Funeral workers' relief at return of van



John Cumiskey, owner of Wombourne Funeral Services, celebrates getting his van back, with happy workers members Matthew Oliver, Michael Oliver, Kieran Bates and Tony Burt after it was stolen from a churchyard

A FUNERAL services van which stolen from a Wombourne churchyard while workers were setting up a grave-stone has now been returned to its owners.

The Bedford pick-up truck belonging to Wombourne & Kinner Memorials was taken in broad daylight from the front of St Benedict's Biscop

Church in School Road. It was discovered days later abandoned on a street in Sedgley.

Bosses at the firm, which has been running for around 30 years, said they were 'delighted' to now have it back.

John Cumiskey, who runs the company with his father John and mother Winifred, said: "We're really

pleased to have it back, especially my dad because it was one of his favourites."

The company has a fleet of 11 trucks but Mr Cumiskey said the vehicle was vital for transporting equipment to churchyards and cemeteries.

Bosses believe it was stolen from the Hiab lifting arm.

Club site homes under way

WORK has started to build four homes on a former war memorial club site in Stourbridge – bringing to an end years of campaigning by residents to get the land reused.

The long-disused Stourbridge War Memorial Club building was demolished in May and plans for the new houses approved.

And construction has now started at the site, in Amblecote High Street, with the new buildings already starting to take shape.

The project is being carried out by

Smethwick firm Bains Builders Ltd. Residents have called for the site to be redeveloped since the war memorial club closed in 2002.

It quickly became a magnet for vandalism and anti-social behaviour suffering fire damage and becoming dilapidated through disuse.

Councillor Pat Martin, said: "I think this development is the best possible use for this site as it will not add too much traffic to what is already a very busy road. Previous applications have been for developments such as entertainment venues which would have caused a traffic nightmare."

"With this development there will be only limited vehicles exiting and entering the site during the day. It is good to see this site finally being developed after so long and I believe it will be an improvement for the area."

"The war memorial club building was in a terrible condition for a very long time and simply did not give the right impression of the area."

"It is a shame the club was lost but there was no longer anything which could have been done with the building."

Dudley Council approved plans for the houses in June.

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West Midlands
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Stourbridge Motor House
Stourbridge
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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO₂ emissions: 324 - 88g/km.

Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

Sept - Dec 2013

What's New

Learning4Life
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The Wordsley School
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LANGUAGES ★ COMPUTERS ★ ACTIVITY ★ MUSIC ★ HEALTH ★ WELLBEING ★ ARTS ★ CRAFTS ★ TRAINING ★ FIRST AID ★ ENTERPRISE

★ **FRENCH Free Taster sessions:**
Beginners: Tuesday 17th Sept. 19.00-21.00
Improvers: Monday 16th Sept. 19.00-21.00
Places MUST be booked in advance
Beginners Course: Tues 24th Sept. 19.00-21.00, 11 wks. £57.90 #
Improvers Course: Mon 23rd Sept. 19.00-21.00, 11 wks. £57.90 #

NEW ITALIAN: AN INTRODUCTION
Mon 16th Sept. 9.30-11.30, 6 wks. £31.60 #

NEW ARABIC: AN INTRODUCTION
Mon 4th Nov. 9.30-11.30, 6 wks. £31.60 #

CREATIVE WRITING Mon 23rd Sept. 19.00-21.00. OR
Mon 11th Nov. 19.00-21.00. Both 5 wks. £26.30 #

NEW RACY WRITING
Tues 1st Oct. 19.00-21.00. 10 wks. £52.60 #

INTRO TO SIGN LANGUAGE
Mon 30th Sept. 19.00-21.00 10 wks. £52.60 #

COMPUTING SKILLS: All courses 3 wks £22.30 #.

THE BASICS:
Tues 17th Sept 14.30 -16.30, Tues 17th Sept 19.00-21.00,
Tues 5th Nov. 14.30 -16.30 OR Tues 5th Nov. 19.00-21.00

INTERNET - E MAIL: Tues 8th Oct. 14.30 -16.30, Tues 8th Oct.
19.00-21.00, Tues 26th Nov. 14.30 -16.30 OR Tues 26th Nov.
19.00-21.00

NEW KEYBOARD SKILLS WORD PROCESSING:
Tues 17th Sept. 12.00-14.00

NEW PRODUCING POSTERS, LEAFLETS AND CARDS:
Tues 8th Oct. 12.00-14.00

NEW SIMPLE SPREADSHEETS: Tues 5th Nov 12.00-14.00

BEGINNERS GUIDE APPLE MAC COMPUTERS
Mon 4th Nov. 19.00-20.30. 6 wks. £44.50 #

★ **GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR ANDROID SMARTPHONE**
Tues 24th Sept. 12.00-14.00, Tues 12th Nov. 12.00-14.00 OR
Tues 19th Nov. 19.00-21.00. All 5 wks £37.10 #

BUYING AND SELLING ON E-BAY
Tues 17th Sept. 19.00 -21.00, Wed 2nd Oct. 9.30-11.30,
Tues 15th Oct. 19.00-21.00. OR Wed 6th Nov. 9.30-11.30.
All 4 wks. £29.70. #

AN INTRODUCTION TO FAMILY HISTORY
Mon 24th Sept. 14.30-16.30 5 wks. £42.10 # (£10)

AN INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL IMAGING USING PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS Mon 16th Sept. 9.30-11.30 OR
Tues 5th Nov.. 9.30-11.30. Both 6 wks. £44.50 #

CONTINUING DIGITAL IMAGING: PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS Mon 4th Nov. 9.30-11.30. 6 wks. £44.50 #

CREATE YOUR OWN WEBSITE Wed 23rd Oct.
14.30 -16.30 OR Thurs 24th Oct. 19.00-21.00. Both 7 wks.
£51.90 #

FITNESS YOGA @ Oakfield **Short N'Sweet**
Fri 20th Sept. 11.15-12.15. 6 wks. £24.70 #

FITNESS GLIDING @ Oakfield **Short N'Sweet**
Fri 8th Nov. 11.15-12.15. 6 wks. £24.70 #

PILATES
Beginners: Thurs 19th Sept. 18.00-19.00, 12 wks. £37.10 #
Beg. @ Oakfield: Fri 20th Sept. 10.00-11.00, 12 wks. £44.50 #
Improvers: Tues 17th Sept. 19.00-20.00, 12 wks. £37.10
Improvers: Wed 18th Sept. 18.30-19.30, 12 wks. £37.10
Improvers: Thurs 19th Sept. 19.05-20.05, 12 wks. £37.10
Improvers: Thurs 19th Sept. 20.10-21.10, 12 wks. £37.10

LEGS, BUMS & TUMS
Tues 17th Sept.. 20.05-21.05, 12 wks. £37.10

BALLROOM and LATIN AMERICAN DANCING
All classes start Mon 16th Sept. for 12 wks. Beginners 18.45-19.45, £40.20. Improvers/ Intermediates 19.45-21.00. £50.30

ADULT SWIMMING LESSONS: Begin Mon 16th Sept. for 12 wks. All cost £37.10. Beginners: 19.00-19.45. Improvers: 19.45-20.30. Intermediates: 20.30-21.15

PRIVATE SWIMMING LESSONS
In a group of 2 or 1 to 1. Contact the office for further details

PLAY THE GUITAR
Intermediates: Mon. 16th Sept. 19.00-21.00. 12 wks. £63.10 #
Improvers: Tues. 17th Sept. 19.00-21.00. 12 wks. £63.10 #
NEW Beginners: Thurs. 19th Sept. 20.00-21.00. 12 wks. £44.50 #
Cont. Beginners: Thurs. 19th Sept. 19.00-20.00. 12 wks. £44.50 #

MEDITATION Thurs 3rd Oct. OR Thurs 7th Nov. 19.00-20.30. Both 4 wks. £22.30 # **Short N'Sweet**

★ **BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT: IT IS ALL ABOUT YOU** ★
Mon 16th Sept. 14.30-16.30, Thurs 19th Sept 19.00-21.00 OR
Thurs 10th Oct. 19.00-21.00 OR Thurs 7th Nov. 19.00-21.00.
All 3 wks. £22.30 #. **Short N'Sweet**

NEW HAIR STYLING FOR BEGINNERS **Short N'Sweet**
Thurs 10th Oct. OR Thurs 7th Nov.
Both 14.30-16.30 3 wks. £22.30 #

NEW MAKE UP FOR BEGINNERS **Short N'Sweet**
Thurs 19th Sept. OR Thurs 28th Nov.
Both 14.30-16.30 3 wks. £22.30 #

WATERCOLOUR PAINTING FOR BEGINNERS
Mon 7th Oct. 14.30-16.30. 3 wks. £22.30 # **Short N'Sweet**

DRAWING FOR BEGINNERS **Short N'Sweet**
Mon 11th Nov. 14.30-16.30. 3 wks. £22.30 #

PAINTING AND DRAWING suitable for all levels
Tues 17th Sept. 19.00 - 21.00, 12 wks. £63.10 #
Wed 18th Sept. 9.30 - 11.30, 12 wks. £63.10 #
Thurs 19th Sept. 10.00 -12.00, 12 wks. £63.10 #
Thurs 19th Sept. 13.30-15.30, 12 wks. £63.10 #

FLORAL ARTS: All 3 wks. £28.30 # (£11.00)

HAPPY HOUSEPLANTS: Tues 17th Sept. 14.30-16.30

BASIC BRIDAL DISPLAY: Tues 8th Oct. 14.30-16.30

HEADRESS + HAIR DECORATIONS:
Tues 5th Nov. 14.30-16.30

BASIC POSY: Tues 26th Nov. 14.30-16.30 **Short N'Sweet**

LEARN TO SCULPT IN STONE
Thurs 7th Nov. 19.00 - 21.00 6 wks. £49.40 #.

CANAL ART: ROSES AND CASTLES
Tues. 5th Nov. 12.00-14.00 OR Mon 25th Nov. 19.00-21.00
Both 3 wks. £22.30 # **Short N'Sweet**

JEWELLERY MAKING Mon 4th Nov. 19.00-21.00
OR Tues 26th Nov. 12.00-14.00 Both 3 wks. £22.30 #

FACE PAINTING AND GLITTER TATTOOS
Mon 16th Sept. OR Mon 4th Nov.
Both 19.00-21.00. 6 wks. £37.60 # (£11)

★ **SEWING MADE SIMPLE** ★
Thurs 19th Sept. 18.00-20.00. OR
Thurs 7th Nov. 18.00-20.00. 6 wks £31.60 #

PATCHWORK suitable for all levels.
Tues 17th Sept. 19.00-21.00. 6 wks. £31.60 # OR
Wed. 18th Sept. 14.30-16.30. 12 wks. £63.10 #

UPHOLSTERY suitable for all levels
Mon 16th Sept. 19.00-21.00. 6 wks. £31.60 # OR
Wed. 18th Sept. 12.00-14.00. 12 wks. £63.10 #

NEEDLE FELT Tues 5th Nov. 9.30-11.30 OR
Thurs 7th Nov. 19.00-21.00, 6 wks. £31.60.

THE SMALL PRINT

Reduced Fees: Where you see this # sign the course is supported by The Skills Funding Agency. If you are in receipt of certain benefits fees are reduced to a registration fee of £5.00.

September courses: May be subject to availability. When you call we will either register your interest. OR if places are available confirm your booking and take payment.

What is **Short N'Sweet?** An introductory taster course of 6 hrs in a small group

Where you see this sign **basic computer and internet skills** are required.

Holiday Dates: Learning4Life is closed from Fri 20th Dec. 2013 to Sun. 5th Jan. 2014 limited opening from 28th Oct -1st Nov. 13

This programme is subject to change: particularly if we are unable to recruit minimum class numbers.

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RLSS NATIONAL POOL LIFEGUARD
Courses start on: 28th Oct. 2013, 17th Feb 2014, 14th Apr 2014, 28th July 2014 OR 4th Aug. 2014.
All 8.30-17.00. 6 days. £177.00, plus additional fees £83.00

RLSS NATIONAL RESCUE TEST for SWIMMING TEACHERS/COACHES 1 day retake: Fri 11th Apr. 2014 subject to previous qualification and training. £37.60, add. fees £28.50. Full course: Tues 22nd July 2014 and Wed 23rd July 2014, 8.30-16.00. £58.90, add. fees £28.50.

DUDLEY MBC INDUCTION TRAINING FOR POOLSIDE ASSISTANTS
Mon 2nd Sept., Mon 7th Oct., Mon 6th Jan. 2014 OR Mon 16th June 2014 All 9.00-12.00. £18.80

EMERGENCY FIRST AID
Fri. 18th Oct. OR Sat. 30th Nov. Both 09.00-16.00. 1 day. £37.60

PAEDIATRIC EMERGENCY FIRST AID
Sat 19th Oct. OR Fri. 29th Nov. Both 09.00-13.00. 1/2 day £25.10

START YOUR OWN BUSINESS
Tues 15th Oct. 19.00-21.00 8 wks. £42.10 #

INTRO. TO TRADING ON THE STOCK MARKET
Tues 17th Sept. 19.00-21.00 OR
Thurs 21st Nov. 19.00-21.00 Both 4 wks £21.00 #

COMMUNITY SESSIONS

ADULT SWIMMING: Mon. 12.30-13.15, Tues. 19.00-20.00, Thurs. 19.00-20.15. All £2.70

AQUAFIT: Wed. 12.30-13.15, Fri. 11.15-12.30. £2.70. Wed. 19.00-20.00, Sun. 9.00-10.00. £3.80

FITNESS SWIM: Mon. 18.00-18.45. £2.00

for 10-19 yrs olds

The community programme starts on Mon 2nd Sept. No sessions 21st Dec. 2013 to 5th Jan. 2014 inc.

INFORMATION? 07963 986672
E mail: 141communitygroup@hotmail.co.uk

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NEWS

Runner of 27 races in claims for disability

A **BENEFITS** cheat claimed he was unable to walk more than 15 yards without a rest – only to be caught on film crossing the finishing line of a half marathon.

When investigators started probing claimant Noel Sanders they discovered he had run in 27 races in three years – all at least 10km long – despite claiming he was barely able to walk a few yards and needed support to help him stand.

The 55-year-old from Brierley Hill, Dudley, told medics he struggled with simple daily tasks such as cutting up food, getting up in the morning and washing himself.

He described taking a number of prescription drugs to help with blood pressure, ease his pain and help him with depression.

But unbeknown to the authorities Sanders had joined a running club in the Black Country and was going on regular training runs. Sanders, who is now unemployed but recently worked as an administration assistant, had been secretary of Stourbridge Running Club for two years.

In total Sanders claimed £12,290 in disability living allowance and £5,173 in Jobseeker's Allowance between September 19, 2009, and January 28 this year. Sanders, of High Street, Brockmoor, pleaded guilty to two charges of dishonestly failing to notify the Department for Work and Pensions of a change in the circumstance affecting his benefit entitlement.

He was given a 12-week suspended prison sentence for six months to run concurrently on both charges during a hearing at Dudley Magistrates' Court. Sanders will also be supervised by the probation service. He will also have to pay £100 court costs.

Son's tribute to D-Day landings War veteran who died of cancer

Melanie tops class for attendance

A GIRL from Coseley who was struck down by meningitis as a baby has proved her full recovery after achieving 100 per cent attendance over seven years at primary school.

Melanie O'Neill, aged 11, was diagnosed with the disease aged just three months old.

Her parents Andy and Alison feared they might lose her and they were also concerned over possible side-effects following her survival.

Academy

But the young girl made a full recovery and since joining Wallbrook Primary School, in Bradleys Lane, Coseley, has not missed a day of class.

As a reward, the school has given her tickets to see *Sleeping Beauty* starring Joe Pasquale at the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre. She joins RSA Academy in Tipton next month.

Mr O'Neill, aged 55, of Julie Croft, Coseley, said: "We're so proud of her. Considering what she went through as a child it is quite incredible her attendance levels at the school are so good."



Melanie O'Neill, of Wallbrook Primary, who has attended for seven years without absence

TRIBUTES have been paid to a war veteran who was awarded medals for his part in the D-Day landings in Normandy. James Pound, was in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and was called up during the Second World War, becoming one of the first soldiers to land on the beaches of Normandy in June 1944.

His son, also called James, of Cornwall Road, Stourbridge paid tribute to his 'honest' and 'hard-working' father, who was given six service medals and was one of the founding members of the Normandy Veterans Association in Walsall.

The father of three, who was diagnosed with prostate cancer earlier this year, was also the standard bearer for more than 20 years.

The 87-year-old, who had lived at Marshall Close and also worked for Aldridge-based firm S Jones Containers for 30 years.

Around 200 people, including Second World War veterans, attended his funeral service.

Mr Pound Jnr, aged 60, said: "In Normandy, he was shot and wounded on July 8, 1944 and he was shipped back to England."

"Whilst in hospital he had 100 pieces of shrapnel removed from his body but some pieces remained in him until he died."

Terrible

Mr Pound, who grew up in Aston, Birmingham, and moved to Aldridge 55 years ago, returned to the Armed Forces in November 1944 and served in Germany, Egypt and Palestine before being discharged in 1947.

His son added: "My father was one of the first to land in Normandy. He used to say it was hard and terrible. His mates were dying around him. I am proud that he fought for this country and it was touching to see so many people at his funeral."

"I didn't realise how much my father was liked. He was straightforward and



D-Day veteran James Pound, who died, 87 honest. He was hard working.

"He always put food on the table for us."

Mr Pound also leaves behind his daughter Carol, 50, and son Desmond, 55.

He became a widower around 20 years ago when his wife Doreen died, aged 60.

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*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details.

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COMMERCIAL FEATURE



Samsung experience: Digital and SMART technologies training is a growing industry area



Legal eagle – an understanding of the principles of law can lead to many career opportunities

Academy is model way to forge ahead

JUST collected your GCSEs and interested in building on your practical and academic skills while gaining lots of professional experience? Then make your way over to Kidderminster Academy.

School leavers can enrol now on a range of full-time Level 2 and Level 3 courses that will help them go on to employment, training and further study.

Courses at the Weavers Wharf-based building include hospitality and culinary arts, law and legal, fashion, retail and visual merchandising, digital and games technology as well as apps design and programming.

Director at the Academy, Jane Smith, said: "Hundreds of new students will be joining us at the Piano Building in September and we are very much looking forward to helping them achieve their potential through the learning opportunities we provide and the facilities available."

"Through the relationships we've developed with local organisations over the last 12 months, we'll have plenty of unique and challenging projects and activities that our learners can be involved in."

OPEN FOR ENROLMENT

"These will really make a difference to their future learning progress and employability."

One of the Academy's major collaborative projects last year was a New Look fashion show organised by students, Goldie Corns and Kira Jackman. The fashion and retail students showcased a stunning range of clothes and accessories on the Academy's catwalk which were expertly modelled by staff from New Look, Kidderminster.

Brilliant

"I saw the event as a major project that combined styling and marketing," explained Goldie, who took up a part-time sales advisor position at New Look after completing a placement there. "Around 100 people came to the show which was brilliant."

"Studying at the Academy and being at New Look has given me a better understanding of the ways a business can maintain good customer relationships. Working on the fashion show led to me being able to use a lot of these principles."

"I like creating different looks and finding outfits to suit a person's body shape, so the fashion show was a great

experience," added Kira. "I'm keen to go into styling after I've finished my course because I want to encourage high street shops to embrace more individual fashion tastes."

"The fashion labs at the Academy are great – very forward thinking. There's great space to use for photography."

"Having our own catwalk also gives us the chance to complete the entire fashion making process from start to finish."

A number of part-time courses are also available at the Academy for adult learners wishing to progress in the workplace or retrain for a new career.

Adult courses include pharmaceutical science, electrical and electronic engineering and servicing, along with bookkeeping, legal secretaries and business administration.

For those that want to brush up on their literacy and numeracy skills, Functional English and Maths courses will help improve career prospects.

For further information about courses at the Academy at Kidderminster telephone 0845 155 0101, email kiddacad@bmetc.ac.uk or visit www.kidderminsteracademy.co.uk



Catwalk queens – Goldie Corns and Kira Jackman (front right) organised a successful fashion show

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Sat 31 August	10.00am - 1.00pm
Mon 2 - Thu 5 September	10.00am - 8.00pm
Fri 6 September	10.00am - 4.00pm
Sat 7 September	10.00am - 1.00pm
Mon 9 - Thu 12 September	12.00noon - 7.00pm
Fri 13 September	10.00am - 4.00pm
Sat 14 September	10.00am - 1.00pm
Mon 16 - Thu 19 September	12.00noon - 7.00pm
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NEWS

Heroes tackle walk for charity



Family and friends of Stefan Halloran take part in a 21-mile charity walk from West Bromwich to Bewdley

Dying man's wishes honoured

A HEARTBROKEN widow is delivering the dying wish of her husband by raising thousands more pounds for charity – with the help of dozens of family members who completed a 21-mile charity walk.

Laura Halloran organised the walk by 100 people from The Coach and Horses pub in West Bromwich to the Black Boy Hotel in Bewdley.

It followed the death of her husband Stefan, who, aged just 29, lost a third battle against cancer in May.

Mr Halloran had beat off the cancer twice since a brain tumour was found in his head in 2007 – but in April two returned, and although one was removed, he died from bleeding on the brain. Before he died, he

raised £14,000 for Brain Tumour UK, and on his death bed he asked his wife to continue the family efforts in giving cash to the charity.

Mrs Halloran met his request and organised the walk, which included the couple's son Jake, aged three, who walked from West Bromwich to Dudley Castle as part of the challenge.

He dressed as Ironman in memory of his father, who he nicknamed the hero because he would bounce back from the tumours found on his brain.

Mrs Halloran said: "It was a great effort by the team – they set off at 8.30am and arrived in Bewdley before 8pm, I'm proud of them all."



Brave Stefan Halloran

star★extraTRAVEL

VIETNAM and Cambodia

The beautiful country of Vietnam is a mosaic of mist-shrouded mountains, vibrant green forests, a patch-work of rice paddies and pristine white beaches, whilst its villages and cities are custodians of the culture and monuments of a unique 2,000 year old civilisation.

In the past few years Vietnam has opened its doors to the world and much has changed. Today, in one of the world's last communist countries, the motorcycles and western dress of the youth happily co-exist with orange-clad Buddhist monks and political posters from a different era.

On this 16-day tour you will visit Hue, one of the country's most beautiful small towns and the former imperial capital. Here you will be able to see the amazing Citadel and its imperial Forbidden City, as well as the magnificent seven-storied Thien Mu pagoda, a working Buddhist shrine.

Contorted by years of erosion, explore the staggeringly beautiful rock formations of Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage site from on board a converted Chinese junk. Then in Saigon you will be taken on a visit to the Cu Chi tunnels, a complex underground network which provided a base for the Vietcong from which to attack US forces. You will see the tunnels themselves and examples of the many mantraps and stake pits which protected them.

The overwhelming image of Vietnam is that of a country blessed with extraordinary beauty and the friendly Vietnamese always courteous and proud to show of their wonderful country.

In Cambodia you can experience the haunting soft morning light rise over the eerie temples of Angkor. Then later discover the huge fortified 13th century city of Angkor Thom, with its five monumental gates, and 300ft wide moat – its centre containing one of Angkor's most remarkable sites, the temple of Bayon.

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NEWS FEATURE

Strangers on the sure way to reboot 60s days

LIVING the rockstar lifestyle, gigging and partying with your best friends and hitting the road with The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and The Shadows as your soundtrack.

But almost 50 years after they first took to the stage a group of pals from Dudley have reunited to celebrate a music milestone and a homecoming gig.

They formed their band The Strangers playing to packed out crowds at a host of Midlands venues, living the life of the swinging sixties.

Brumbeat was the word on the lips of many music aficionados trying to break the next big thing after the stunning success of the Fab Four.

Packing

But it was the Black Country band gigging seven days a week that were packing clubs to rival their peers from up and down the country. The Strangers were among a few to impress the club bosses, playing the biggest tracks of the time.

"It was an amazing time. If you could remember the sixties you weren't really there," said former lead singer Roy. "We loved it. We'd be playing seven nights a week with hardly any time to rehearse."

Songs like It's All Over Now by The Rolling Stones, Roll Over Beethoven by Chuck Berry and She Loves You by the Beatles were among their impressive repertoire. The Strangers morphed out of two other bands - The Crestas and The Marauders in the early 60s.

Their settled line-up included lead guitarist Alan Cleo, now aged 68 and living in Colesey, drummer Mick Aston, 71, from Dudley, 70-year-old Roy 'Dripper' Kent on vocals, Tony Dalloway, 71, from Lower Gornal, on rhythm guitar and bassist Jake Elcock,



The Strangers in 1964, pose in the boot of a Ford Zodiac. From left, Mick Aston, Alan Cleo, Jake Elcock, Tony Dalloway, and Roy 'Dripper' Kent



Back together, in a Ford Mondeo

69, from Sedgley. Tony said: "There was no better feeling than playing in a rock 'n' roll band in the 60s. Our wives might not agree because very often they stayed at home with the children, but for the lads up on stage it was magic."

They graced legendary venues of the day like the Plasas in Old Hill and Handsworth, The Adelphi Ballroom, in West Bromwich, and The Ritz at King's Heath. But one of their most

popular haunts was the Gladstone Liberal Club, known as Dudley Jazz Club, in New Street, in the town centre. Clubs would often pay them around £10 to perform and the group said they were delighted just to be paid to play each night.

Nights would be spent playing sets at pubs finishing off at 10.30pm before packing their gear into a van for a late gig until until 2am somewhere else.

"In those days there was so much work that everyone had some money," said Alan. Alan, Jake and Roy will take to the stage together again with performers from other well known bands of the time, including the Montanas, this December. They will be joined by a special guest on keyboards, Chris Groucutt, son of the late Kelly Groucutt, who was bass player with ELO.

The show, which also features other live acts, takes place on December 7 at Brierley Hill Civic Hall. Tickets are £12. Call 01384 812812.

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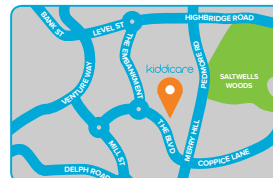
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LYN slim size 10, 5ft 9ins, attractive with GSOH, OHAC, employed, WLTm genuine guy who is also looking to put some fun back into life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407195** ☺

DEBS 37yr old professional, outgoing, bubbly, seeking genuine man for good times in/out and just see where it leads. Single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407039** ☺

NATASHA is a naughty 22yr old lady seeking no strings discreet fun with older man. **Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box 366033**

BLONDE blue eyed 72yr old widow, GSOH, young at heart, seeks honest, caring gent of similar age for holidays, weekends away and happy times, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407113** ☺

MEDIUM build female, 66, widow, 5ft 5ins, likes walks, reading, holidays, seeks sincere male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407003**

PAULA 38 single mum with OHAC, attractive blue eyes, size 14, seeking well built male with GSOH and honest/reliable disposition, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407029** ☺

WHERE have all the genuine men gone? Sue single female who enjoys nights in/out, music, seeks sincere male to enjoy good times and get close to. Pis ring. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407025** ☺

SUSAN 34 attractive looking to find that special connection with a nice guy who would enjoy spending good times with me and share new interests. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406109** ☺

ANITA petite 33yr old tanned, toned sexy size 10 female with very high drive and lots of energy looking for similar man for adult no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406835** ☺

HI I am Linda a lonely petite mature lady looking for nice caring male to 65yrs who also has lots of love to give for hopeful relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406715** ☺

GOOD looking professional female, 51, enjoys arts, wine/dining, sightseeing, country walks, seeks special male to enjoy great Summer with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406765**

LINDA bored housewife wanting to spice things up a bit looking for clean well-mannered professional for discreet adult meets. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406705** ☺

SUE slim feminine brunette, caring, fun loving, independent, no ties, OHAC, loves cooking, WLTm willing male to get to know and spend quality times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406693** ☺

NICKY lonely single mum with GSOH, honest and very loving seeking trustworthy, cuddly, tactile male who can make all my dreams come true. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406523** ☺

SARA 32 very attractive single mum, OHAC, professional, looking for similar outgoing single dad 35-55yrs for companionship, hopefully more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406511** ☺

ATTRACTIVE female, young 49, 5ft 7ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, genuine, loyal, easygoing, GSOH, seeks tall, handsome male, 40-50 for fun times, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406135** ☺

SINGLE cuddly female, 5ft 6ins, green eyes, seeks male, 40-50 for fun and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406015** ☺

WIDOW young hearted 70's, N/S, likes reading, concerts, gardening, meals out, WLTm younger gentleman with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404177**

MARIA 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 329319** ☺

NAT easygoing pretty, honest 24yrs, enjoys cosy nights in, romantic walks, holidaying, keeping fit, WLTm fun, loving, energetic male, looks/age unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406117** ☺

BLONDE attractive educated lady 50, young minded, seeks professional tall male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391818** ☺

SINGLE female, 43, seeks kind, considerate male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406449** ☺

PAULINE 36 intelligent easygoing female with GSOH looking for nice guy who wants to get know and connect with me, enjoys meals in/out, music and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406373** ☺

DONNA 42yrs young separated female who is ready to start dating again, bubbly, attractive, blonde and raring to get going, come on don't keep me waiting! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406341** ☺

SLIM 32yr old blonde, kind, caring, good listener, honest, likes to have fun, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 339373** ☺

28YR old brunet, seeks fun loving, adventurous male for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 380918** ☺

JANET looking for handsome prince to spoil me in return for lots of good fun and well deserved uncomplicated attention. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405823** ☺

NEW to dating and a little nervous, Susan very attractive 30yr old curvy single mum, looking for fun times with similar outgoing male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405809** ☺

SARAH 24, brunette, brown eyes, attractive, slim, smart, seeks male with GSOH, 30's in Kidderminster area for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406139** ☺

SUSIE, seeks fifty shades of grey with guy any age but must be discreet, call and I will explain why. **Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box 407321**

YOUNG looking, pretty female, 40, brunette, slim, no ties, N/S, seeks attractive, refined male for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 313115**

JANICE 40, 5ft 5ins, medium build, brown eyes, likes music, cooking, cosy nights in/out, seeks similar male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397407** ☺

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CARLA 41, brown hair/eyes, 5ft 2ins, loving, seeking male who likes walks, cinema and romantic meals. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396127**

ATTRACTIVE lady, GSOH, slim, dark hair, 50's, likes walks, films, art, meals out, seeks male with GSOH and similar interests for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399245**

FUN loving lady, outgoing, honest, caring, likes socialising, seeks older male, 50-70. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383325** ☺

KIND romantic female, 50, seeking a male to talk, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 368429** ☺

SHAZ 33 easygoing voluptuous black female with lovely smile and personality to match, loves music, keeping fit and looking good, WLTm appreciative guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404819** ☺



62YR old female, widowed, small, slim, attractive, kind, outgoing, likes meals out, dancing, holidays, nights in, seeking professional gent. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394106** ☺

SUSIE fun loving mum with GSOH seeks gentle considerate to get to know better. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404627** ☺

VOLUPTUOUS big hearted brunette, Maria, 36, loves music, seeks someone special to show her what she's missing. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 346785** ☺

PAT 67, attractive, likes reading, holidays, seeking female, 65-72 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405895** ☺

SHELLEY 48, 5ft 5ins, brunette, seeking discreet relationship with male 48-52 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405795**

WOMAN 55yrs old, N/S, size 14, likes animals, nature, reading, TV, quiet life, seeks man 45-55, N/S for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404447** ☺

BLACK female 32yrs, 38dd, very curvy, sensual and looking for discreet fun with no strings or complications, any age, looks or status. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405269** ☺

GALE looking for old fashioned man with old fashioned values to sweep me off my feet, enjoy adult fun times and maybe even more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405259** ☺

CHRISTINA 38 very pretty petite trainee nurse looking for N/S male companionship to enjoy meals/drinks out, leading to more maybe. Age/looks and status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405243** ☺

MANDY friendly outgoing arty female who loves wine/dining, looking for male to sweep me off my feet, take me out and make me feel special, reciprocation guaranteed. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405229** ☺

JANE 46yrs West Midlands, likes meals out, cinema, theatre, looking for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403949**

48YR old attractive female seeking local fun maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403947**

LOVING caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 364651** ☺

GAIL 52, blonde hair, 5ft 2ins, likes nights out, seeks N/S male, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402041**

LIZ 42, black, divorced, seeking male, 44-54 for kind, sincere, honest, open relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 400949**

CLARE 38, single mum, curvy hour glass, loves to be tactile, OHAC, WLTm caring male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399047**

CAROLINE attractive, kind, caring, 43, seeking kind, caring male for LTR, 45-50. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396837**

FEMALE looking for gent, 65-70, caring, loving and independent. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378295**

35YR old female, seeks intelligent, down to earth male, 50-75 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388297**

MANDY 36, size 10 but busty, looking for discreet relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360317** ☺

I am Tracy 39yr old young chatty single female looking for older male to look after me and show me some much needed attention with discretion and no ties. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405293** ☺

REBECCA tall slim elegant long legged romantic, sensual, professional, lots to offer, seeks similar male who also appreciates the finer things in life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405281** ☺

JANE attractive, seeking male for fun and friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403807**

BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384852**

MARIA petite curvy brunet, into keep fit, running, beauty, looking for nice genuine tall N/S guy with no ties for fun adult companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405099** ☺

SALLY 37 blonde blue eyed bombshell who loves life, music, letting my hair down, looking for similar flirty guy for enjoy TLC and life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405203** ☺

LOUISE 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, average looks, likes reading, meals out, cinema, theatre, quiet pubs, honest, genuine, kind, caring, GSOH, seeks male, 42-58. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391308**

KIND loving lady 43, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391863**

LOVING caring young 68yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim-medium build, size 12, smoker, seeks slim, well-dressed guy with GSOH for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399923** ☺

BLONDE attractive, educated lady, tall, slim, curvy, 47, seeks tall, professional, 40-52. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 362478**

GENUINE female, 36, brunette, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, fun, outgoing, adventurous, GSOH, looking for tall, honest, genuine male for good companion, dates and romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388327** ☺

YVONNE looking for Christian male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391135** ☺

FEMALE looking for stocky male, 50-60 to share a happy life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386169** ☺

BLACK attractive female, 34, slim, N/S, seeks genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Holby. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 367021** ☺

PATRICIA 5ft 5ins, red hair, blue eyes, likes nights out, meals, clubs, seeking nice young man who is kind, generous to look after me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378207** ☺

LITTLE bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curvy blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 363428** ☺

SLIM fit, bubbly female can't wait to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. AKA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 367066** ☺

CURVY red haired female, been hurt in the past seeks older male to buy her flowers and mend her broken heart. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 377432** ☺

61YR old lady 5ft 2ins, medium build, long dark hair, smoker, seeks smart gent who wants to get out and about for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396409**

DAWN attractive, slim female, 45, N/S, no ties, WLTm tall, fit male with get up and go attitude towards life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375825**

VANESSA fun loving single mum, 5ft 4ins, brown eyes, seeks kind, loving, genuine male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 304135** ☺

ATTRACTIVE female, 42, slim, brunette, no ties, N/S, likes travel, nights out, weekends away, seeks slim male for possible relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 327579**

SARAH 23, attractive, brunet, slim, looking for male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392979**

SINGLE MEN

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MALE 46, enjoys romantic walks, meals out, seeks female biker for rides out and touring. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407171**

MALE 50, fit, friendly, down to earth, broadminded, seeks bored female for discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 372407**

KEVIN 40, stocky, 6ft 2ins, dark hair, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 35-50 for fun and relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406773** ☺

MARK 45 6ft, blue eyes, dark hair, slim, likes sports, cinema, meals out, seeking loving, caring female to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406737** ☺

COLIN 5ft 8ins, dark hair, brown eyes, likes pubs, walks, dvds, holidays, seeks nice lady for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406677** ☺

MATT nice build, likes cycling, clubs, looking for fit, sexy female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406727** ☺

PROFESSIONAL local businessman, 40 tall, blue eyes, likes sports, music, seeks professional slim lady for romantic meals, evenings out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406717** ☺

ARE you a black princess? 48yr old sporty whitey male, 5ft 11ins, likes holidays, cinema, meals out, would like to take you out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406551**

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MALE seeking female, 40-55, discretion assured, status unimportant for daytime meets. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406433** ☺

SHARP dressed man, mature, fun, seeks smart, size 10 lady, any age for friendship and relationship. Hereford. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405323** ☺

58YR old male, likes nights in/out, looking for N/S female, 40-60 for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405975** ☺

JOSEPH 40 tall, GSOH, seeks female, 28-48 for fun and relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394103**

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388372**

38YR old farm worker, medium build, seeks female of similar age for nights in and out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406331** ☺

ATTRACTIVE tall, professional male, GSOH, easy going, likes sport, socialising, seeks female for fun and live life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406317**

CHRIS 45, genuine, honest, caring, N/S, likes cinema, theatre, socialising, seeks genuine, N/S female, 39-45, single mum welcome for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406295** ☺

46YR old stocky male, no ties, shaved head, likes walks, meals out, motor bikes, seeking female for relationship, are you the one? **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406291**

SLIM attractive man 51, GSOH, WLTm lady 45-55 for evenings out and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406259** ☺

BROADMINDED 67yr old black male, GSOH, caring, loving, seeks lady, 62-69 for friendship and adult fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406257** ☺

MAURICE 50's, seeking N/S female for nights out, friendship and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 400425**

STRICTLY come dancing. Male 52, trendy, honest, caring, down to earth, fun loving, seeks petite lady, 45-54. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397163**

GENUINE 56yr old male, divorced, OHAC, looking for nice lady for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405551** ☺

JIMMY 53 good looking, fit, genuine, honest, very loving and looking for the same in a woman. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397157** ☺

ROUGH diamond 45 looking for older lady, the older the better, for fun times, can accommodate, let me entertain you. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404437**

GEOFF 60's, tall, seeking nice lady for fun, friendship, relationship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406077**

PAUL 46, brown/blond hair, 6ft, slim, single dad, genuine, down to earth, fun loving, kind, caring, likes most things seeking female for love. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406007** ☺

PAUL 60, seeks attractive Wolverhampton lady for discreet, naughty daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405699**</

What's On! Dudley

REVIEW

Evita, Grand Theatre
MARTI Fellow may have been the 'star' of Evita but it was Madelena Alberto as Eva who shone throughout.

Her acting was superb, and that voice – strong, dynamic and yet soft and gentle when needed. She lived the part of the teenage girl who ran away to Buenos Aires and into the affections of Juan Peron, the President of Argentina, and the packed audience at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre just loved it – and her. The standing ovation was well deserved.

Evita is one of Lloyd-Webber and Rice's most powerful musicals and her performance was just that.

Memorable

Pop star-turned theatre star Marti Fellow did an admirable job as the revolutionary Che Guevara, the cynical narrator, but at the start it was difficult to hear what he was singing.

Fortunately most people would know the story of how Evita, as she was affectionately known, not only became the First Lady of her country, but to her people, the spiritual leader, before her death from cancer aged just 33.

The story is told through song and Madelena, a Portuguese actress and singer/songwriter sang the memorable Don't Cry for Me Argentina not as a song, but as a speech that Eva gives as the First Lady of Argentina. She held the audience spellbound.

It runs until Saturday. Try to get a ticket. **SA**

Ocean Colour Scene coming back home for big festival

OCEAN Colour Scene are coming home this weekend to headline at the Moseley Folk Festival where they will pay homage to their roots by playing their Moseley Shoals album.

The festival at Moseley Park, Birmingham runs from Friday until Sunday September 1 with OCS on stage on the first night.

Legends of Dublin just keep going

LAST year The Dubliners celebrated their 50th anniversary but sadly the tour was followed by the death of the last founder member 'Banjo' Barney McKenna.

After much soul-searching the remaining members, excluding John Sheahan who felt he had other musical avenues to explore, decided they would carry on and renamed themselves The Dublin Legends.

The line up of veterans Sean Cannon, Patsy Watchorn, Eamonn Campbell and relative newcomer Gerry O'Connor will be on stage in Moseley on Sunday.

Also lined up are Edwyn Collins, who will be on Stage on the Saturday, The Dublin Legends who are made up of the remaining members of The Dubliners and Yorkshire's Kate Rusby.

Lucy Rose will take to the stage on Sunday and among the other great acts will be British Sea Power, The Be Good Tanyas, The Staves, The Leisure Society, Katherine Priddy and Tir Na Nog.

Doors open at 1pm on Friday and 11am on Saturday and Sunday. Each day finishes at 10.30pm.

The first acts are on soon after the gates open and Main Stage headliners are the last act of the day and will be on stage around 9pm.

Full performance times will be on display at the festival information tent and the bar, they will also be in the festival programme.

For more information go to www.moseleyfolk.co.uk



Birmingham-based Dan Whitehouse will be playing the Moseley Folk Festival

Dan's the man for Moseley

WOLVERHAMPTON singer songwriter Dan Whitehouse will be appearing at the festival on Sunday.

Dan who is about to launch his second album will be playing the Centre Court Stage.

Originally from Compton Dan is now based in Birmingham and his new CD Reaching for a State of mind will be officially launched on September 29 at the Crescent Theatre, Sheepcote Street, Birmingham. It will then be released on October 7.

At the theatre Dan will be playing with a full band and has recently announced he will be joined by Duke Special as his guest.

Doors open 6pm tickets are £8 in advance or £11 on the night. Call 0121 643 5858.

Revved up for Himley

PLANS are now finalised for the Classic Car and Transport Show taking place at Himley Hall, Dudley, on September 1.

Following on from last year's successful event which attracted a record crowd and hundreds of vehicles, organiser Geoff Price is hoping for good weather to complete a season of outdoor classic car events around the Midlands.

Now in its 14th year the show has once again attracted over 700 vehicles from across the region with cars dating back to the 1920s including a 1924 Rolls Royce and a 1925 locally-produced Bean Tourer. For the children the show has inflatables, quad bikes and miniature open top bus rides.

Gates open 10am to 4.30pm. Admission prices are £6 adults/OAPs and £3 for children. There is free onsite car parking within the grounds for the event.

Witty Steve in Rooms' return

AFTER his sell out debut UK tour last year, Aussie comic Steve Hughes is back to demonstrate his cutting philosophical wit to British audiences once again.

He tours with a new show called While It's Still Legal, beginning the 49-date run at The Slade Rooms in Wolverhampton on Thursday, September 5. Call 0870 320 7000 for tickets.

Greenline



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Sat 14th Sep	SOUTHPORT FUNFAIR , Victorian Town, SEAFRONT AIRSHOW! (J/s £55)	£18	£16	£13
Wed 18th Sep	BURY MARKET World famous Bury Market	One Price £16		
Sun 22nd Sep	BLACKPOOL ILLUMINATIONS includes tour of lights (J/s £35)	£18	£16	£13
Tue 24th Sep	MYSTERY DAY OUT???? Midweek Saver	One Price £12		
Sat 28th Sep	BLACKPOOL Rtn 8pm (no tour) (J/s £55)	£18	£16	£13
Sun 29th Sep	MALVERN Autumn Show crafts, stalls, vintage vehicles etc inc add	£30	£28	£17
Mon 30th Sep	BAKEWELL MARKET & BUXTON	One Price £16		
Wed 2nd Oct	NOTTINGHAM RIVER CRUISE 3hr cruise & 3 course roast dinner	One Price £35		
Mon 7th Oct	TORQUAY NETHWAY HOTEL 5 Days Entertainment/Excursions	ONLY £169		
Mon 14th Oct	BLACKPOOL Carn Brau 5 Days Entertainment/Excursions 99p Bar!!!	£235		
Fri 25th Oct	BLACKPOOL ILLUMINATIONS Carn Brau 2 Days 99p Bar!!!	Only £79		
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QUARTET

By Ronald Harwood

Set in a retirement home for musicians, three former opera singers, who often worked together, are sitting out on the terrace. Reginald, quietly reading, Wilfrid chuckling about sex as he regards Cissy relaxing listening to music. Then their equilibrium is disrupted by the arrival of Jean, Reggie's former wife. Will they ever be able to sing in harmony again! Ticket prices are Wed-Sat £9.00 with concessions at £5.00. Mon & Tues special rate of £7.00 no further concessions.

Films at Oldbury Rep

The Screen on the Green

September 27th Song for Marion

October 11th The Great Gatsby

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What's On!

SATURDAY'S TV 31.08.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE



Arnold Schwarzenegger

Terminator 2: Judgment Day
Channel 4, 9.20pm
 James Cameron and Arnold Schwarzenegger returned to the saga that had made them bankable stars in 1984. For newcomers, this glorious adventure sees future resistance leader John Connor attempting to break his mum out of a secure hospital and then trying to stop her killing the man who will create lethal company Skynet. Oh, and while he's doing that he has to avoid dying at the mercurial hands of a shape-shifting Terminator. After 22 years the movie's visuals still look great, and the action scenes are an adrenaline-fuelled treat.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. 11.30 Home Cooking Made Easy. (R) 12.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather. 12.15 Football Focus. 1.00 Inspire: The Olympic Journey. Gabby Logan visits sports projects in Hackney Marshes. 1.30 Bargain Hunt. (R) 2.00 Live MotoGP. 3.00 Rowing. 4.30 Final Score. 5.15 That Puppet Game Show. 5.55 BBC News: Regional News; Weather. 6.15

Pointless Celebrities. A chefs special, with Rustie Lee, Antony Worrall Thompson, Theo Randall, Rachel Allen, Jean Christophe Novelli, Paul Rankin, Aaron Craze and John Whaite.

7.05 I Love My Country. With Eamonn Holmes, Kelly Holmes, Iwan Thomas, Helen Flanagan, Martine McCutcheon and Dougie Poynter.

7.50 The National Lottery: Break the Safe. Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which three pairs compete in several quiz rounds, with the winners playing for the money in the safe.

8.40 Casualty. Ash tries to improve Lily's bedside manner.

9.30 Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow. With Ardal O'Hanlon, Jack Whitehall, Andi Osho and Sean Collins. (R)

10.00 BBC News: Weather. 10.20 Match of the Day. Including highlights of Manchester City v Hull City; National Lottery Update.

11.40 The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. 7.05 Film: The Boy with Green Hair. (1948) 8.25 Film: The Little Minister. (1934) 10.10 Real History of Britain. (R) 10.40 The Private Life of Plants. (R) 11.30 University Challenge. (R) 12.00 The A to Z of TV Cooking. 12.45 Caribbean Food Made Easy. (R) 1.15 EastEnders. 3.10 Coast. 3.30 Wild China. (R) 4.30 Urban Jungle. 5.00 Flog It! Trade Secrets.

6.00 Dragons' Den. A publisher proposes a business strategy that goes against industry trends. (R)

7.00 Proms Extra 2013. The BBC Symphony Orchestra's performance of Wagner's Tristan and Isolde. Last in the series.

7.40 Dad's Army. The platoon defends headquarters against members of the Highland Regiment. (R)

8.10 Thatcher - The Downing Street Years. A look at Margaret Thatcher's relationships with US president Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and her increasing isolation as the economy worsened. (R)

9.15 Terror in the Desert. The stories of British survivors of January's hostage crisis in Algeria, when terrorists linked to al-Qaeda stormed a gas facility and held hundreds of workers captive.

10.15 Qi XL. With Jeremy Clarkson, Jason Manford and Sandi Toksvig.

11.00 Film: Jackie. (1989) Drama, starring Robert De Niro.

12.35 Film: Federal Hill. (1994) Crime drama, starring Nicholas Turturro. 2.10 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Jake and the Neverland Pirates. 6.15 Jake and the Neverland Pirates. 6.35 Poppy Cat. (R) 6.40 Poppy Cat. (R) 6.50 The Animals. (R) 7.00 The Animals. (R) 7.15 Almost Naked Animals. (R) 7.30 Fish Hooks. 7.45 Fish Hooks. 8.00 Bottom Knockout Street. 8.15 Bottom Knockout Street. 8.30 Dinner Date. (R) 9.25 Saturday Cookbook. (R) 10.20 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 11.20 Saturday Farm. 12.20 ITV News: Weather. 12.35 Film: Carry On Screaming. (1966) 2.25 The Chase. (R) 3.25 Midsomer Murders. (R) 5.30 Regional Programme: Weather. 5.45 ITV News: Weather. 6.00 New You've Been Framed! 6.30 Stepping Out. New series.

6.00 New You've Been Framed! Celebrity dance contest in which six familiar faces and their real-life partners try to master routines in different genres each week. Davina McCall hosts.

8.00 The X Factor. New series. The talent show returns with two editions every week and welcomes Sharon Osbourne back to the judges' desk, as the acts perform at the first closed-room auditions.

9.20 Through the Keyhole. New series. Keith Lemon hosts a revival of the classic game show in which celebrity panelists are challenged to identify the homes of the rich and famous.

10.15 ITV News: Weather. 10.30 Film: Forgetting Sarah Marshall. (2008) Romantic comedy, with Jason Segel, Kristen Bell, Russell Brand, Mila Kunis, Bill Hader and Liz Cackowski.

12.30 Jackpot247. 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. 3.40 ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Treacle People. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 VW Racing Cup. 7.05 The Grid. 7.30 Long Course Weekend. 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 10.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 11.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.25 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.55 The Simpsons. (R) 12.30 Undercover Boss Australia. (R) 1.30 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Sandown Park, Chester and Beverley. 4.15 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.45 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.15 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.50 Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.25 Come Dine with Me. Hairdresser Nigel Womack hosts the final dinner party in East Lancashire, and prepares a menu featuring aphrodisiacs before the winner is announced. (R)

6.55 Channel 4 News. 7.25 9/11: 102 Minutes That Changed America. Amateur footage and audiotape recorded by people around New York, giving an insight into their experiences of the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Centre in 2001. (R)

9.20 Film: Terminator 2: Judgment Day. (1991) A cyborg is sent back in time to protect the future saviour of the human race from a shape-changing assassin. Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Arnold Schwarzenegger and Linda Hamilton.

12.05 Film: Fair Game. (2010) Fact-based thriller, with Naomi Watts. 2.00 Hollyoaks. Omnibus. (R) 4.05 Deal or No Deal. (R) 5.00 Countdown. (R) 5.45 Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 10.10 Power Rangers: Megaforce. 10.40 Sluggerra. 11.05 Inside Hollywood. 11.10 Celebrity Big Brother: Live Eviction. (R) 12.35 Film: Columbo: Prescription Murder. (1968) 2.40 Film: The Burning Hills. (1956) 4.35 Film: The Four Feathers. (2002) Historical adventure, starring Heath Ledger. 6.55 5 News Weekend. 7.00 Cricket on 5. England v Australia. Mark Nicholas presents action from the second and final Twenty20 fixture at the Emirates Durham International Cricket Ground.

8.00 NCIS. The agents learn one of their former investigative assistants has been murdered, and has been selling information about how to rob a warehouse. (R)

8.55 NCIS. Gibbs and DiNozzo investigate the case of a retired marine colonel found murdered with an axe, and find the evidence points to his drug-addicted son. (R)

9.50 5 News Weekend. 10.00 Celebrity Big Brother. Highlights of the famous housemates' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, including another chance to see the latest eviction.

11.00 Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Psych. Psychological analysis of the housemates' behaviour.

12.00 SuperCasino. 4.00 Wildlife SOS. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R) 4.50 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 5.00 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.10 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.20 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.25 The Funky Valley Show. (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 5.50 Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Doctor Who. 7.45 Robin Hood. 8.30 Great Movie Mistakes IV: May the Fourth Be with You. 9.00 Live at the Apollo. 9.30 Film: Reign of Fire (2001) 11.05 Family Guy 11.55 American Dad!

BBC Four
7.00 Precision: The Measure of All Things. 8.00 Tiger - Spy in the Jungle. 9.00 Film: Point Blank (2010) 10.20 Definitely Dusty (2010) 10.20 Dusty Springfield at the BBC

ITV2
4.15 The Xtra Factor Rewind. 5.15 Film: The Borrowers (1997) 7.05 Film: Small Soldiers (1998) 9.20 The Xtra Factor 10.20 Celebrity Juice 11.10 The X Factor

ITV3
2.55 Film: Housesitter (1991) 5.00 Inspector Morse 7.00 Foyle's War 9.00 Lewis. A killer targets a religious group. 11.00 Wire in the Blood

ITV4
2.30 British Touring Car Championship Highlights. 4.00 British Superbike Championship Highlights. 5.00 Classic TT 2013. 7.00 Cycling: Vuelta a Espana. 8.00 Uster GP Highlights 2013. 9.00 Film: Mortal Kombat: Annihilation (1997) 10.50 Film: Full Metal Jacket (1979)

E4
3.30 Rules of Engagement. 5.55 The Mindy Project. 6.25 The Big Bang Theory. 7.25 Suburgatory. 7.50 How I Met Your Mother. 8.50 Happy Endings. 9.20 Film: Days of Thunder (1990) 11.25 PhoneShop

Film4
2.45 The Brady Bunch Movie (1995) 4.30 Now's the Moment (2004) 6.50 Grease (1978) Romantic musical, with John Travolta. 9.00 Run Fat Boy Run (2007) 10.55 Scary Movie (2000)

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MONDAY

Amblecote
 Amblecote Christian Centre, Broad Lane, 9.30am Tel: Anne 07907 771801

Lye
 Salvation Army, 85 High Street, 7.30pm Tel: Christine 01562 828888

Walsoken
 The Ridge Primary School, Gregory Road, 7.30pm Tel: Laura 07959 521893

Quarry Bank
 The Priory School, Thorne Road, 4.30pm & 8.30pm Tel: Lisa 01304 820887

Worceley
 Ashford Park Primary School, Bates Lane, 7.30pm Tel: Ian 01304 827993

Dudley Wood
 Methodist Church, Quarry Road, 9.30am Tel: Lisa 01304 820887

Halesowen
 Halesowen School, Foston Lane, 8.30am & 7.30pm Tel: Dawn 07958 310173

Sedgley
 Central End School, Central End Road, 7.30pm Tel: Vanessa 07958 945059

Metherton
 Oak Street Methodist Church, Oak Street 8.30am & 7pm Tel: Heather 01562 811140

Halesowen
 Townsend Social Club, Moorbridge Road, 8.30am & 7.30pm Tel: Louise 01304 820373

TUESDAY

Halesowen/Halesowen
 Christian Fellowship, 25 Albert Road, 9.30am & 11.30am Tel: Michelle 01562 832 3207

Halesowen
 Lullay Community Centre, Brook Willow Road, 5.30pm & 7.30pm Tel: Barbara 0121 832 3207

Worceley
 Richardson Hall, Laneswood Road, 10am Tel: Lisa 01304 827998

Norton
 Norton Primary School, The Broadway, 7pm Tel: Anne 07962 771901

TUESDAY

NEW GROUP FROM TUES 17th SEPT
Norton
 The 2000 Mile, Walsoken Way, Off Heath Farm Rd, 10am Tel: Caroline 01562 888315

Amblecote
 Peters Hill Primary School, Tel: Laura 01304 455427

Peters Hill Road, 6pm & 7.30pm
 Tel: Laura 01304 455427

Walsoken/Walsoken
 Douglas Community Centre, Madley Road, 7pm Tel: Diane 01562 827588

Walsoken
 St James C of E Primary School, Kingsway, 7pm Tel: Deborah 01562 827922

Rowley Regis
 Disability Centre, Rowley Village, 5.30pm & 7.30pm Tel: Karen 07942 468088

Woodcote
 Bramford Primary School, Park Road Entrance, 7pm Tel: Sarah 07953 945884

Oldbury
 Sandberg's (Savacentre), Fresh Street, 8pm & 7.15pm Tel: Ann 0121 422 3399

Pedmore
 Hub Green School, Hub Green Road, 8.30am & 7.30pm Tel: Paula 07948 847998

Upper Gornal
 Upper Gornal Methodist Church, Spils Meadow, 10am Tel: Lynn 07958 369394

General
 Zee Methodist Church, Abbey Road, 5.30pm & 7pm Tel: Sue 01304 211425

WEDNESDAY
 Amblecote

Amblecote
 Amblecote Primary School, School Drive, 7.30pm Tel: Caroline 01562 888315

Blackheath
 Central Methodist Church, High Street, 10am, 3.30pm & 8.30pm Tel: Ann 0121 422 0295

Old Hill
 Holy Trinity Church, Halesowen Road, 5.30pm & 7.30pm Tel: Jill 01304 562102

WEDNESDAY

Cheswold
 St Mary's Church Hall, Rowley Road, 4pm, 6.30pm & 7.30pm Tel: Kerry 01304 830812

Brierley Hill
 Wymoor Primary School, Cyfield Avenue, 7pm Tel: Lynn 01304 455427

Miner
 Miners Health Junior School, Burdon Road, 7pm Tel: Sue 01304 827998

Kingswinford
 Royal British Legion, Gunterhill, 3.30pm, 5.30pm & 6.30pm Tel: Ann 01304 74884

Lower Gornal
 The Skills Primary School, Longford Road, (in the old school) 7.30pm Tel: Wendy 07957 594752

Brookwood
 Brookwood Community Centre, Pennant Road, 10am Tel: Ian 01304 827998

Walsoken
 The Chapel, St Giles Street, 10am Tel: Jill 01304 827998

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Walsoken
 The Chapel, St Giles Street, 10am Tel: Jill 01304 827998

THURSDAY

Hawthorn
 Oakfield Centre, Mended Lane, 5.30pm & 7.30pm Tel: Jill 01304 820887

Pennant, Halesowen
 Liberal Club, 152 High Street, 4.30pm, 6.30pm Tel: Gillian 01304 820887

Sedgley/Upper Gornal
 St Chads & All Saints Social Club, High Wycombe, Dudley Road, 5.00pm & 7.30pm Tel: Sue 01902 853323

Dudley
 Central Methodist Church, Cross Street, 10.30am, 12 noon, 5.00pm & 7.30pm Tel: Sue 01304 211425

Halesowen
 Townsend Social Club, Moorbridge Road, 5.30pm Tel: Louise 01304 820373

Walsoken
 The Chapel, St Giles Street, 10am Tel: Jill 01304 827998

Walsoken
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Walsoken
 The Chapel, St Giles Street, 10am Tel: Jill 01304 827998

FRIDAY

Kingswinford
 St Mary's Church Hall, The Village, 10.00am Tel: Sue 07958 354234

Halesowen
 Members Club, Hagley Road, 10.00am Tel: Jill 01304 562102

Saturday
 Hawthorn

Hawthorn
 Oakfield Community Centre, Mended Lane, 5.30am Tel: Jill 0779879498

Cradley
 End Neighbourhood Centre, Hagley Road, 9.30am Tel: Terry 0779879498

Cradley
 End Neighbourhood Centre, Hagley Road, 9.30am Tel: Terry 0779879498

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 End Neighbourhood Centre, Hagley Road, 9.30am Tel: Terry 0779879498

Cradley
 End Neighbourhood Centre, Hagley Road, 9.30am Tel: Terry

What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 1.09.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE



David Threlfall

What Remains

BBC1, 9pm

During the past few months, viewers have been treated to several top-notch crime dramas, and many critics wondered if What Remains would turn out to be the poor relation, but not a bit of it. Len is now convinced that there's more to Melissa's death than he originally thought, and he's determined to get to the bottom of what happened to her. He finds an unlikely ally in pregnant Vidya, and together they uncover some new information in the loft that suggests somebody isn't being entirely truthful about their relationship to the dead woman.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. **12.00** BBC News: Weather. **12.10** Helicopter Heroes. **12.40** Countryfile. **1.35** Bargain Hunt. **2.15** Ultimate Swarms. **3.15** Victoria Wood's Nice Cup of Tea. **4.15** Escape to the Country. **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.35** Britain's Big Wildlife Revival. **6.35** BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

7.00 Countryfile. Ellie Harrison and Matt Baker explore efforts to clean up south Wales' Gower Peninsula and Adam Henson reveals the threat to livestock from nuisance dogs.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the experts visit the seaford at Eastbourne, where items include a collection of pottery, a signalling lamp used during D-Day and rare images of Marilyn Monroe. Red button viewers can play along by guessing the valuations.

9.00 What Remains. Len has retired but finds himself drawn back into the mystery of Melissa's death. He questions the neighbours with the help of Vidya, and they soon realise someone is lying.

10.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day 2. Highlights from today's Premier League fixtures.

11.40 That Puppet Game Show. With EastEnders Shane Richie and TV presenter Claudia Winkleman. **12.00** The Sky at Night. **12.40** Weatherview. **12.45** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.30** Film: Mighty Joe Young. (1949) **8.00** Around the World in 80 Days. **9.00** Gardeners' World. **9.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** The Incredible Spice Men. **12.00** Live MotoGP. **2.30** Rowing. **4.00** Equestrian. **6.00** Flog It! James Lewis and Kate Bliss value items in Stroud. **6.30** Iolo's Great Welsh Parks. Iolo Williams explores Dindefwr Park in Carmarthenshire.

7.00 The Great British Bake Off. The 12 remaining contenders face three bread-making tasks, having to make 36 bread sticks, prepare a batch of English muffins and end with a show-stopping loaf. **8.00** Dragons' Den. Two Cumbrian woodsmen employ an unusually combative tactic to win the Dragons' approval, and a Glasgow couple try to gain investment in their yoga franchise.

9.00 The Story of the Jews. New series. Simon Schama explores the history of the Jewish people, investigating how they have preserved their identity despite war, deportation, enslavement and exile.

10.00 Blackadder the Third. Edmund tries to find a rich bride for Prince George. **10.30** Film: Girl with a Pearl Earring. (2003) Period drama, starring Scarlett Johansson. **12.05** Sign Zone: Countryfile. **1.00** Holby City. **2.00** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Poppy Cat. **6.10** Poppy Cat. **6.25** Poppy Cat. **6.35** Poppy Cat. **6.50** Animals. **7.00** Animals. **7.05** Bookaboo. **7.15** Almost Naked Animals. **7.30** Fish Hooks. **7.45** Fish Hooks. **8.00** Bottom Knockers. **8.15** Bottom Knockers. **8.30** Country House. **9.00** Country House. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **10.15** Murder, She Wrote. **11.15** ITV News: Weather. **11.25** Ade in Britain. **12.30** Film: Columbus: The Conspirators. (1978) **2.30** The X Factor. **3.50** The Chase. **4.50** Film: The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas. (2000)

6.30 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.45 ITV News: Weather. **7.00** Coronation Street. Hour-long episode. Karl makes a shock admission to Jason, Fitz tells Sinead that Chesney regrets splitting up with her, and Roy surprises Hayley with a special meal in the cafe.

8.00 The X Factor. Limited places at boot camp are at stake as the acts who impressed at the first auditions move on to Wembley Arena for their second performances. Dermot O'Leary hosts.

9.00 Vera. Joined by a new addition to the ranks, Vera and the team investigate the murder of a respected surgeon and the abduction of his two teenage daughters.

10.55 ITV News: Weather.

11.10 The Cube. Two more contestants take on the challenge. **12.05** The Store. **2.05** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **2.55** Motorsport UK. **3.45** ITV NightScreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **9.00** The X Factor.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. **6.35** The Hoobs. **7.00** Ironman 2013. **7.30** Outlaw Triathlon. **8.25** Everybody Loves Raymond. **8.55** Frasier. **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. **1.00** The Big Bang Theory. **1.30** The Simpsons. **2.00** The Simpsons. **2.30** Film: 10 Things I Hate About You. (1999) Comedy, starring Heath Ledger and Julia Stiles. **4.25** Location, Location, Location. **5.30** Film: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel. (2009) Comedy, starring Zachary Levi.

7.10 Channel 4 News.

7.40 Rebuilding the World Trade Centre. Documentary following artist and filmmaker Marcus Robinson's project to capture the reconstruction of the World Trade Centre using time-lapse photography.

9.00 Film: The Dilemma. (2011) Premiere. A man realises his best friend's wife is having an affair, but tries to gather proof before revealing all. Comedy drama, with Vince Vaughn, Kevin James and Winona Ryder.

11.15 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. Sharon Osbourne talks about her X Factor return, Lee Evans and Keeley Hawes chat about their new West End comedy, and Alan meets a few of the stars of Dragons' Den. **12.15** Film: Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara. (2011) Premiere. Comedy drama, starring Abhay Deol. **2.50** Emily's Song. **3.05** Four Rooms. Members of the public try to sell their prized possessions to four art dealers. **4.00** Deal or No Deal. **4.55** Countdown. **9.00** SuperScribers.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. **6.25** Bubble Guppies. **6.40** The Mr Men Show. **6.50** Chloe's Closet. **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. **7.25** Noddy in Toyland. **7.40** City of Friends. **7.55** The Princess. **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. **8.40** Rupert Bear. **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. **9.15** Toby's Travelling Circus. **9.25** Roary the Racing Car. **9.45** Jelly Jam. **10.00** Power Rangers Samurai. **10.35** Sluggert. **11.00** Inside Hollywood. **11.05** Celebrity Big Brother. **12.00** Celebrity Big Brother: Ryan's Supersized Sunday. **12.55** World's Biggest Pets. **1.55** Film: Fly Away Home. (1996) **4.05** Film: The Pursuit of Happyness. (2006)

8.00 Once Upon a Time. Bellefire meets the Darling family in 1900s London and learns about a magical place called Neverland.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. The ups and downs of life in the BB house as friendships and alliances are made, battle lines are drawn and arguments erupt.

10.00 Film: The Expendables. (2010) Action thriller, directed by and starring Sylvester Stallone.

12.00 Film: Blood and Bone. (2009) **1.40** SuperCasino. **4.00** Wildlife SOS. **4.25** Make It Big. **5.00** Roary the Racing Car. **5.10** Angels of Jarm. **5.10** Hana's Helpline. **5.20** Angels of Jarm. **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. **5.50** Hana's Helpline. **9.00** The Mindy Project. **6.00** The Big Bang Theory. **7.30** New Girl. **8.00** Film: Footloose. (1984) **10.05** The Inbetweeners Top 10 Moments. **11.40** The Big Bang Theory. **11.45** Baby's Day Out. (1994) **4.45** Laputa: Castle in the Sky. (1986) **7.20** The Wedding Date. (2005) Romantic comedy, with Debra Messing and Dermot Mulroney. **9.00** 48 Hrs. (1982) Comedy thriller, starring Nick Nolte and Eddie Murphy. **10.55** The Onen. (2006) Horror remake, starring Liev Schreiber.

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Film: Race to Witch Mountain (2009) **8.35** Great Movie Mistakes III: Not in 3D **9.00** Sun, Sex and Suspicious Parents **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** Boom Town **11.15** American Dad!

BBC Four
7.00 A Poet's Guide to Britain **7.30** Proms on Four: Tristan & Isolde **11.50** Imagine: Paul Simon

ITV2
2.30 Film: Dennis (1993) **4.15** The X Factor **5.40** The Xtra Factor **6.45** Film: Twister (1996) **9.00** The Xtra Factor **10.00** Film: The Chronicles of Riddick (2004)

ITV3
3.50 Murder, She Wrote **4.55** Foyle's War **7.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **9.00** Film: The Wings of the Dove (1997) **11.10** Film: Circle of Friends (1995)

ITV4
2.25 Film: Escape to Victory (1981) **4.45** Film: Every Which Way But Loose (1978) **7.00** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **8.00** Film: Cool Hand Luke (1967) **10.40** Film: Manhunter (1986)

E4
3.30 How I Met Your Mother **5.30** The Mindy Project **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** New Girl **8.00** Film: Footloose (1984) **10.05** The Inbetweeners Top 10 Moments **11.40** The Big Bang Theory. **11.45** Baby's Day Out. (1994) **4.45** Laputa: Castle in the Sky. (1986) **7.20** The Wedding Date. (2005) Romantic comedy, with Debra Messing and Dermot Mulroney. **9.00** 48 Hrs. (1982) Comedy thriller, starring Nick Nolte and Eddie Murphy. **10.55** The Onen. (2006) Horror remake, starring Liev Schreiber.

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What's On!

Film Choices

MONDAY

La Bamba, BBC1, 11.55pm

Musical biopic of 1950s singer Ritchie Valens, whose promising career was cut short by the fatal plane crash in 1959 that also claimed the lives of Buddy Holly and the Big Bopper. The film focuses on Valens' thwarted romance with Donna Ludwig and his rivalry with his older step-brother. Starring Lou Diamond Phillips. (1987)

TUESDAY

Accused at 17, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A teenage girl becomes prime suspect in the murder of a girl who had been secretly seeing her boyfriend. The accused's mother stands by her and launches an investigation to expose the true culprit, a schoolfriend who committed the crime as part of a twisted revenge plan. Drama, with Cynthia Gibb. (2009)

WEDNESDAY

The Edge of Love, BBC1, 11.35pm

The renowned poet Dylan Thomas is unexpectedly reunited with his former lover Vera Phillips, both of them having married in the meantime. Passion is soon reignited between the pair, but surprisingly, Vera also forms a very close friendship with Thomas' wife. Fact-based period drama, starring Keira Knightley. (2008)



La Bamba, Monday, BBC1, 11.55pm

THURSDAY

The Greatest, BBC1, 11.35pm

A grieving mother becomes obsessed with her dead son's last moments, while her unfaithful husband struggles to comfort her and their surviving son feels he can never live up to his brother's reputation. Their lives are complicated further by unwelcome encounters with the dead man's pregnant girlfriend and the driver who killed him. Drama, starring Pierce Brosnan. (2009)

FRIDAY

The Tempest, BBC2, 11.05pm

A noblewoman with sorcerous powers is banished to a remote island along with her daughter. She uses her abilities to dominate the magical creatures living there and summons a storm that wrecks a ship. When the survivors come ashore, she learns one of them is her brother, who exiled her, and plans revenge. Shakespearean fantasy, starring Helen Mirren. (2010)

Fallen, BBC1, 11.05pm

A detective investigates a series of grisly murders that mimic the handiwork of an executed serial killer. The case takes a stranger twist when he realises a bloodthirsty disembodied demon is responsible – and that it can leap from one unsuspecting host to another. Supernatural thriller, starring Denzel Washington, John Goodman and Embeth Davidtz. (1998)

Pick of the Week

A nation tunes in to see a new star being born

You can tell when summer is almost over because ITV bombard us with ads for juggernaut talent search The X Factor.

Yes, we know it feels like the last one only finished a few weeks ago; our optic nerves are still recovering from the retina-searing fireworks and pyrotechnics of the 2012 contest.

Amazingly that was last December, and as the year has zipped by faster than Simon Cowell on a jet ski, it's time to face the music once more.

The last series was plagued by stories about falling ratings and Nicole Scherzinger's risqué comments, not to mention the occasional falling-out between the judges, but that's what the show's always been about.

Behind the scenes, Cowell is keen to ensure the show stays in the headlines from now until that pre-Christmas finale.

To be fair, these first few episodes are usually TV gold as we witness more deluded wannabe acts given their shot at the big time, while some turns with genuine talent attempt to overcome their nerves in the hope of winning the nation's hearts.

And it's not always the winners of this show who become the biggest stars. After all, runners-up Olly Murs, One Direction and Union J (shamelessly shoehorned into Kick Ass 2 recently) have all seen their careers go through the roof.

Once more we welcome Gary Barlow, Nicole Scherzinger, and original series judges Sharon Osbourne and Louis ('I'm still here!') Walsh.

"Music has to be from the soul, it has to be about learning your craft," enthused Louis a few weeks before TXF's inaugural run.

"I don't want these people to think they can just walk into a television studio and become a star. It doesn't happen like that. You have to be good."

Well, good at brightening up a dull Saturday night if nothing else.

After all, Jedward weren't blessed with great singing voices, and they've gone on to carve a lucrative career for themselves. And 2012's breakthrough star Rylan Clark was the first to admit he was no great shakes in the vocals department.

It didn't matter a jot. The audience loved him, and after winning Celebrity Big Brother earlier this year, he went on to host Big Brother's Bit on the Side, and is now favourite to join the cast of I'm A Celebrity... when that returns in a few weeks.

Because of TXF 2012's relatively poor ratings, there have been a few tweaks to this year's format. It will be shown twice a week with Saturdays initially dedicated to the closed room auditions (like the first five years of the show).

The most impressive acts then perform at Wembley Arena on Sundays in front of thousands.

The perpetually diplomatic Dermot O'Leary is on hand to celebrate with those talented hopefuls who progress through to the next round, and commiserate with the tone-deaf auditionees who are not so fortunate.

Fingers crossed we get more genuine stars, like 2012 contestants Lucy Spraggan, Jahmene Douglas and winner James Arthur.

As Nicole says, it should be "Shamazing!"



The judges pass their opinions in The X Factor, Saturday, ITV, 8pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY

Gadget Man

Channel 4, 8.30pm

Keen on the star tech: the next generation? Then this is the show for you. Sadly Stephen Fry has moved on, but IT Crowd veteran Richard Ayoade is not a bad choice to fill his shoes. For this new run, he'll be testing all the prototypes and gizmos he can get his hands on, as well as developing his own problem-solving contraptions. For the inaugural show, he and actor Stephen Mangan embark on a luxury camping trip; Richard will be trying out the world's biggest pen knife; sheds light on the latest in virtual reality; tries out a prototype camper van, and demonstrates an amazing straw that enables the user to drink from rivers without being poisoned.

Doc Martin

ITV, 9pm

Everyone's favourite curmudgeonly medic (brilliantly played by deadpan Martin Clunes) is back for a new run of the picturesque drama, and it looks like marriage is on the cards for the eponymous hero and Louisa. However, there are no shortage of problems, including PC Penhale, who wrongly assumes he is best man, and Louisa, who is running late. Though the Reverend has his doubts as to whether she will turn up, when she does, hearts melt and at last they tie the knot. Like a faulty TV aerial, the reception proves irritating for Martin as swarms of villagers have turned up to celebrate; he thought it was going to be a small wedding. Sadly their honeymoon lodge also proves to be a nightmare.

TUESDAY

Ade in Adland

ITV, 8pm

The first television advert was broadcast in 1955, and since then many of us have been bombarded with clever ads for food and drink. You'll get to see some of them in this show as Adrian Edmondson reveals how TV commercials over the past seven decades have reflected the ways in which Britain has evolved. We see how the late 1960s saw an increasing number of ads aimed at women as alternatives to beer and wine grew in popularity, while microwave-ready meals changed the eating habits of many. And for fans of the medium, yes, we will get to see those beloved Cinzano ads with Leonard Rossiter and Joan Collins, as well as the rib-tickling Smash Martians commercials.

Trauma: Level One

ITV, 9pm

If there's one thing we can't get enough of – according to telly bosses at least – it's reality shows set in hospitals. So this new two-partner may not offer too many surprises to those of us who have caught the veritable litany of similar series, but Trauma: Level One does have a few things going for it – and not just a snappy title. The setting – University Hospital Southampton's major trauma centre – is one of only 12 such units in the country, and

features the most critical patients receiving only the best care. Cases in the opener include a 24-year-old man injured in a mini-bus crash on the M4, and a 14-year-old boy hurt in a road accident.

WEDNESDAY

Whitechapel

ITV, 9pm

The latest run of the hit series contains three separate stories that run across two episodes each – so six instalments in total. The middle one has been penned by Steve Pemberton, who also plays Buchan in the show, while the other two are by the show's creators, Ben Court and Caroline Ip. The first case begins with the discovery of a man crushed to death by stones – but his demise is just the first of several bizarre murders that seem to be linked to a 16th-century incident involving witchcraft. Has somebody embarked on a real-life witch-hunt, and if so, why? And what are its links to 20th-century spies? Rupert Penry-Jones stars.

THURSDAY

Educating Yorkshire

Channel 4, 9pm

So, what do we know about Dewsbury? It's in West Yorkshire and

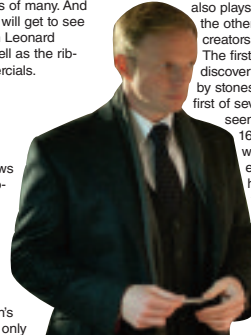
lies south of Leeds. It's also the setting for this new, eight-part series which follows life at the local Thornhill Community Academy. Headteacher Johnny Mitchell was born and raised in the area, and he's determined to make sure the recent upturn in exam results continues – his main ambition is to give every pupil the best chance to maximise their potential, both in terms of academic success, and as upstanding members of the community. Expect warmth, humour and universally recognisable themes of teenage life and pupil-teacher relationships in what promises to be a fascinating and, at times, eye-opening docusoap.

FRIDAY

World Cup Qualifying Live

ITV, 7.30pm

England look to take another step along the road to next year's World Cup in Brazil, as they welcome Moldova to Wembley Stadium, for what should prove to be a straightforward evening. While Roy Hodgson's men have hardly impressed during this campaign, the gulf in class between the Three Lions and their opponents is enormous, as highlighted by the 5-0 victory in the reverse fixture, which, arguably, could have seen England into double figures, had they been more clinical in front of goal. This is the seventh qualifier under Hodgson and he remains unbeaten, but the three wins and three draws have given little indication of improvement since the tenure of Fabio Capello, and participation at the finals is far from certain, with Poland, Ukraine and Montenegro all still in with a shout.



Whitechapel, Wednesday, ITV, 9pm

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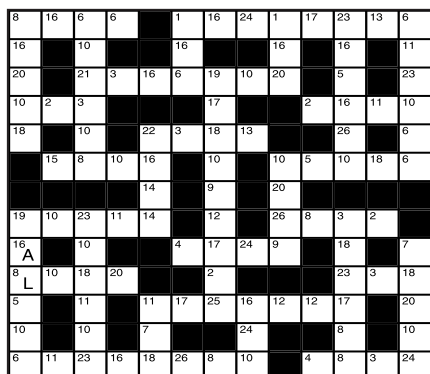
PHONE FOR BROCHURE

Brain Gym

No.236

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
T	N	Y	S	C	X	R	W	Z	L	F	A	M
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
G	D	I	K	H	U	J	P	V	Q	E	B	O

Double Crossword

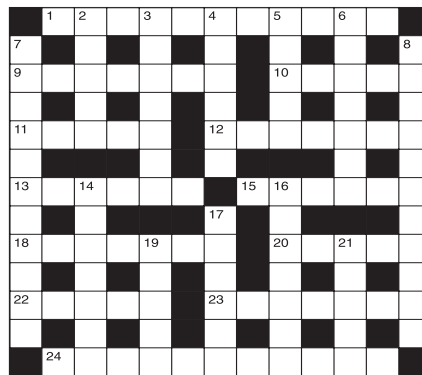
Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:
Across

- Go after cheap rail arrangement for island group (11)
- One who once performed as an oppressive creditor (7)
- One wouldn't think better of a patient who is this (5)
- Black material for the making of a sports arena (5)
- The star is disturbed by suggestions of blackmail (7)
- Most pleasant Riviera resort street (6)
- Humiliate me in the presence of the cleric (6)
- Drug taken by Eastern female with a leading part in the play (7)
- It physically supports nearly everything according to law (5)
- Makes an approach? (5)
- Part of the storm entailed considerable distress (7)
- Ancestors to which relative pronouns refer (11)

Down

- About to perform and respond to a certain stimulus (5)
- Free rides can produce small difficulties (7)
- Equality required for one in a political faction (6)
- One who bellows in a baser key! (5)
- Luggage in French station will make the place look untidy (7)
- What an assistant deck-worker will provide? (7,4)
- One spy trial may reveal an out-standing character (11)
- Its fall will sometimes be followed by its call (7)
- Blow up the shot! (7)
- Get out of debt to compose one's mind (6)
- Something printed for children (5)
- Massive place to have a fire, we hear (5)



Quick Clues:

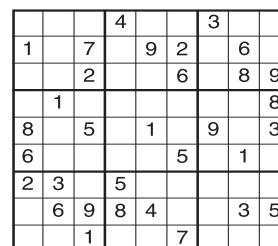
Across

- Promotion (11)
- Network of crossed laths (7)
- Pale yellow (5)
- Inflate (5)
- Praise bestowed (7)
- Make certain (6)
- Soul (6)
- Deny (7)
- Best-known fabulist (5)
- Meaning (5)
- Expression of approval (7)
- Disposition (11)

Down

- As before (5)
- Airman (7)
- Horrific (6)
- Mediterranean island (5)
- Wandering (7)
- Dumbfound (11)
- Not tried (11)
- Formulated knowledge (7)
- Athletic ground (7)
- Pearl-producer (6)
- Soak (5)
- Disdain (5)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	9	7	8	5	2	6	4	3
2	4	6	3	7	9	5	1	8
3	7	5	2	3	4	8	6	1
4	1	3	9	8	6	2	5	7
5	2	8	5	1	7	9	3	4
6	7	2	1	4	8	3	9	6
7	3	8	1	6	9	5	4	7
8	9	6	4	7	2	3	1	8

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 High-road; 5 Bali; 9 Slur; 10 Caravans; 11 Lists; 12 Hailing; 13 Electromagnet; 18 Lothario; 19 Men; 20 Pendant; 21 Banal; 22 Eats; 23 Scantily. Down: 2 Ill-will; 3 Heretic; 4 Anachronistic; 6 Arabian; 7 Insight; 8 Maxima; 13 Eclipse; 14 Extinct; 15 Tiaras; 16 Gymnast; 17 Eye-ball. QUICK - Across: 1 Artifice; 5 Stud; 9 User; 10 Invasion; 11 Steal; 12 A la mode; 13 Consideration; 18 Entrance; 19 Nest; 20 Opinion; 21 Fiery; 22 Toga; 23 Defended. Down: 2 Risotto; 3 Inroads; 4 Convalescence; 6 Tripoli; 7 Dungeon; 8 Canada; 13 Cheroot; 14 Nothing; 15 Italian; 16 Tension; 17 Observe.



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An internal flight takes you to Bangkok where there is an included guided tour of this wonderful city followed by a klong canal cruise. You will also be taken to the floating markets at Damnoen Saduak and the 70-acre Rose Garden on another included excursion.

Perhaps the highlight of the holiday will be the included River Kwai and 'Death Railway' excursion, journeying on the train to Nam Tok Sai Yok Noi on the infamous route through the Thai jungle.

Finally you arrive at the picture postcard resort of Cha-Am, set beside the blue waters of the Gulf of Thailand where you can relax and enjoy this beachside hotel. Again two optional excursions are offered to nearby Hua Hin, the favourite holiday resort of the Thai Royal family, and the riverside town of Phetchaburi.



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* varies according to departure date - please go to website for the latest availability and prices

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Property

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Two-bed home on at £99,950



On the ground floor is a lounge, 12ft 6in by 12ft 4in, with its staircase to the first floor area

A TWO-BEDROOM semi-detached period cottage in Birch Coppice, Quarry Bank, Brierley Hill, is for sale based on offers around £99,950.

Having been recently redecorated and with a refitted shower room, the house is described as offering ready to move into accommodation, ideal for first time buyers or buy to let investors.

On the ground floor is a lounge, 12ft 6in by 12ft 4in, with staircase to the first floor and wall-mounted contemporary electric fire and archway into a kitchen/diner measuring 10ft 10in by 8ft and with a range of wall and base units, roll-edge work surfaces, inset stainless steel sink drainer with mixer tap, integrated electric hob, oven and extractor hood, space for table and chairs and archway into a utility room with appliance spaces and door to shower room with cubicle, WC and sink.

On the first floor are two bedrooms while outside the property stands behind a dwarf wall with to the rear a courtyard style garden gravelled for easy maintenance.

Call estate agent Billingham Taylor on 01384 234900 for further details or to arrange a viewing.



A semi-detached in Birch Coppice, Quarry Bank, Brierley Hill, is available via Billingham Taylor

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1	138 COLLIS STREET, STOURBRIDGE, WEST MIDLANDS DY8 4EE	Freehold Vacant Residential	28,000 - 29,000	33	408 MOSLEY ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, B12 9AT	Freehold Vacant Residential	75,000 - 80,000
2	42 CHASELEY LANE, EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM, B25 5BH	Freehold Residential Investment	65,000 - 69,000	34	224 WENNESBURY ROAD AND 2 PRINCE STREET, WALSALL, WS2 9DN	Freehold Commercial Investment	80,000 - 90,000
3	FLAT 1, WILLOW LANE, COPPICE ROAD, MOSLEY, BIRMINGHAM B13 3DP	Leasehold Vacant Residential	25,000 - 29,000	35	5 OXFORD ROAD, MOSLEY, BIRMINGHAM, B13 3EJ	Freehold Vacant Residential	300,000 - 320,000
4	FLAT 18 TRAFALGAR COURT, TYNDALE, OLDHURY, WEST MIDLANDS B9 2DP	Leasehold Residential Investment	20,000 - 25,000	36	UNIT 2, 2A MEETING LANE, BIRLEY HILL, WEST MIDLANDS DY5 3LB	Freehold Vacant Commercial	90,000 - 64,000
5	43 BRIDGEMAN ROAD, TYNDALE, OLDHURY, SHROPSHIRE TF7 1JP	Freehold Commercial Investment	75,000 - PLUS	37	30 CAROLINE STREET, OLDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS DY2 7DP	Freehold Vacant Residential	60,000 - 64,000
6	3 HOB STREET, MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE TF9 1PY	Freehold Vacant Commercial	30,000 - PLUS	38	AL FRANKTONS LIMITED, LODGEFIELD ROAD, HALESOWEN, WEST MIDLANDS B9 2DP	Freehold Vacant Residential	180,000 - 195,000
7	1182 COUNTRY ROAD, HADLEY B2 8DA	Freehold Vacant Residential	40,000 - 46,000	39	40 ST MARKS CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM, WEST MIDLANDS B2 8AR	Freehold Vacant Residential	90,000 - 64,000
8	145 WINDSOR AVENUE, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV4 4BA	Freehold Vacant Residential	104,000 - 112,000	40	227 DOUGLAS ROAD, COXES GREEN, BIRMINGHAM, B27 8EX	Leasehold Vacant Residential	48,000 - 52,000
9	10 SPINNEY ROAD, WILLOWHALL, WEST MIDLANDS WV12 5AZ	Freehold Vacant Residential	82,000 - 88,000	41	PROBANT TRADING SITE, 51 DOUGLAS ROAD, SMETHWICK, WEST MIDLANDS B96 1LE	Leasehold Development Land	400,000 - PLUS (VAT)
10	45 OCCUPATION STREET, OLDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS DY1 2DF	Freehold Vacant Residential	50,000 - 55,000	42	414A HIGH STREET, GHOVWICK, WORCESTER, WORCESTERSHIRE WR9 9BW	Freehold Vacant Commercial	160,000 - 175,000
11	2A CHURCH STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV1 7TL	Freehold Residential Investment	70,000 - 77,000	43	LAND ADJ FORMER QUARRY SITE, PORTWAY HILL, TYNDALE, OLDHURY	Freehold Vacant Land	3,000 - PLUS
12	10 BELLEFAY GARDENS, MOSLEY, BIRMINGHAM, B13 9HZ	Freehold Vacant Residential	90,000 - 100,000	44	PARDOCK, 7 & 8 HILLOPP RD, LONG GREEN, WYVERN, WORCESTER	Freehold Vacant Land	5,500 - 4,500
13	LAND OFF KENFORD CLOSE, SANDHILL	Freehold Vacant Land	2,000 - PLUS	45	22 HAYFORD CLOSE, ABBEYDALE, REDDITCH, WORCESTERSHIRE B98 8AG	Leasehold Residential Investment	42,000 - 46,000
14	4 KENWORTH COURT, OLDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS DY1 2DT	Leasehold Vacant Residential	48,000 - 52,000	46	283 - 285 HIGH STREET, WEST BROMWICH, WEST MIDLANDS B70 0ND	Freehold Vacant Commercial	275,000 - 300,000
15	159 SOMERSET ROAD, HANDSWORTH WOOD, BIRMINGHAM, B20 2JF	Freehold Vacant Residential	100,000 - 110,000	47	53 MERRIDALE STREET, WEST WOLVERHAMPTON, WV5 0JU	Freehold Vacant Residential	58,000 - 64,000
16	92 DOVELEY ROAD, OLDHURY, WEST MIDLANDS B9 2BW	Freehold Vacant Residential	88,000 - 74,000	48	565 CONVENT ROAD, SMALL HEATH, BIRMINGHAM, B9 0LP	Freehold Vacant Commercial	140,000 - 150,000
17	7 WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, BLOMICK, WALSALL, WS3 2EY	Freehold Commercial Investment	90,000 - 97,000	49	12 SPRING ROAD, EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM, B15 2HG	Freehold Vacant Residential	185,000 - 195,000
18	75 COLLEGE STREET, SUTTON COLDFIELD, WEST MIDLANDS B72 1SH	Freehold Vacant Commercial	180,000 - 190,000	50	LAND LOCATED OFF STRAWBERRY LANE, WILLOWHALL	Freehold Land with Potential	10,000 - PLUS
19	LAND ADJOINING 28A CULHAM ROAD, BIRMINGHAM B15 2JL	Freehold Development Land	185,000 - 180,000	51	251 HOSPITAL STREET, BIRMINGHAM, B15 2HF	Freehold Vacant Commercial	90,000 - 100,000
20	426 CHESTER ROAD, SUTTON COLDFIELD, WEST MIDLANDS B73 5BS	Freehold Vacant Residential	110,000 - 120,000	52	LAND ADJOINING 62A BRISTOL ROAD SOUTH, NORTHFIELD, BIRMINGHAM, B31 2JR	Freehold Vacant Commercial	80,000 - 85,000
21	32 THE PARK, HAVELL, REDDITCH, WORCESTERSHIRE B97 6GF	Freehold Vacant Residential	105,000 - 110,000	53	1401 PERSHORE ROAD, STROCKLEY, BIRMINGHAM, B30 2JR	Freehold Vacant Commercial	130,000 - 150,000
22	407 HAZLEY ROAD, SMETHWICK, WEST MIDLANDS B96 4AK	Freehold Vacant Residential	150,000 - 150,000	54	10-11 BRIDGE STREET, HERFORD, HR8 3EF	Freehold Commercial Investment	74,000 - 78,000
23	65 FERRY HILL DRIVE, BIRMINGHAM, B42 2LG	Leasehold Vacant Residential	90,000 - 84,000	55	92-104 HIGH STREET, OLDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS DY1 1DP	Freehold Vacant Commercial	80,000 - 70,000
24	10 BLUEBELLWOOD CLOSE, WALSLEY, SUTTON COLDFIELD, WEST MIDLANDS B76 2UB	Freehold Residential Investment	100,000 - PLUS	56	93-94A HIGH STREET, OLDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS DY1 1DP	Freehold Vacant Commercial	90,000 - 98,000
25	12 THE COPPICE, HANDSWORTH WOOD, BIRMINGHAM B20 2JF	Freehold Residential Investment	145,000 - 150,000	57	69-71A MERE GREEN ROAD, SUTTON COLDFIELD, WEST MIDLANDS B75 8BY	Freehold Vacant Commercial	180,000 - 200,000
26	705-717-719 CROFTWOOD ROAD, BUCKLEY GREEN, BIRMINGHAM, B9 4AD	Freehold Vacant Residential	10,000 - 15,000	58	118 REMINGTON ROAD, WALSALL, WS2 7EE	Freehold Vacant Residential	42,000 - 46,000
27	129 HADEN ARCH COURT, HADEN HILL ROAD, HALESOWEN, B9 4AD	Leasehold Vacant Residential	60,000 - PLUS	59	LAND TO BEAR 324 SHAFTHURST LANE, HALL GREEN, BIRMINGHAM, B38 8SX	Freehold Land with Potential	10,000 - 15,000
28	UNIT 148 HIVE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, FACTORY ROAD, BIRMINGHAM B15 5JL	Freehold Vacant Commercial	38,000 - 46,000	60	28 FARDON ROAD, ALUM ROCK, BIRMINGHAM, B3 3AS	Freehold Residential Investment	70,000 - 77,000
29	THE ROYAL GOLF CLUB, HIGH STREET, WIDENING, CHAM, ST 10P	Freehold Vacant Commercial	900,000 - 975,000 - 900	61	14 ASHCROFT GROVE, PERRY BAR, BIRMINGHAM, B20 2JW	Freehold Vacant Residential	68,000 - 74,000
30	THE HOWARD CENTRE, PAPER MILL END INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, BIRMINGHAM, B44 8BH	Freehold Vacant Commercial	225,000 - 250,000	62	90 DORRINGTON ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, B42 1UT	Leasehold Vacant Residential	50,000 - 59,000
31	HOLLIES COTTAGE, WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, SHAPESHILL, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV10 7LJ	Freehold Vacant Residential	220,000 - 240,000				
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The detached house is in a slightly elevated position close to catchment schools and local amenities

Planning permission in place for extension

A PROPERTY in Avenue Road, Compton, Wolverhampton, is being sold with planning permission in place to extend it into a five bedroom house with three en suites.

Priced at £320,000, the property is in a slightly elevated position and stands in a tree-lined road close to primary and secondary schools and local amenities.

Laundry
The home benefits from gas central heating, double glazing, driveway and garage and spacious accommodation briefly comprising of entrance hallway, guest WC, living room, separate dining room, kitchen breakfast room, laundry room, conservatory, master bedroom with en suite, three further bedrooms and family bathroom.

Call Charles Derby Estates on 01902 244200 for more details.



Living room - Charles Darby Estates is handling the sale of the property

Revamp project has £400,000 price tag



Turret House provides original accommodation plus three self-contained flats

AN eye-catching property in the sought after area of Tettenhall, Wolverhampton complete with turret as its name implies, is for sale based on offers around £400,000.

Turret House in Stockwell End, has been converted in various ways over the years to leave original accommodation and three self contained flats.

It now requires complete renovation/ refurbishment and could either be converted back into one home or apartments, subject to planning approval.

Bathroom

On the ground floor is a hallway, cellar, lounge with fireplace, dining room, kitchen with double bowl sink, floor and wall units and a third reception/ bedroom with shower room off.

On the first floor are two bedrooms and a bathroom, with stairs to the "turret room" with two self-contained flats, and the third flat on the ground floor.

Outside is a detached double garage and driveway, gardens, rear courtyard area, utility store and brick store.

Call agent Jon Steventon on 01902 753131.

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Halesowen Office



HALESOWEN, Bromsgrove Road£850 pcm
Located in the desirable area of Romsley. This unfurnished semi detached house features gas central heating, modern and spacious lounge, fitted kitchen, conservatory, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, loft space, front & rear gardens, garage, fantastic views. Viewing strongly recommended



HALESOWEN, Jimara, Feldon Lane£695 pcm
An extended traditional semi-detached house with plenty of space. Comprising a large living room, separate dining room, study, 2 double bedrooms, 1 large single bedroom, house bathroom with shower, kitchen with appliances, separate utility room, downstairs wc, driveway for 3 cars.



HALESOWEN, Sanderson Place£650 pcm
Luxury living in Hayley Green. A superb ground floor apartment offering spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen and diner, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, further well appointed bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking.



HALESOWEN, Wroxley House£625 pcm
Luxury living in Hayley Green. This luxury 1st floor apartment offers spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen and diner with balcony, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, further well appointed bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking.



BIRMINGHAM, City Heights£625 pcm
A furnished 2nd floor apartment, in the centre of Birmingham, briefly featuring 2 double bedrooms, through lounge/kitchen, electric storage heating, bathroom with shower, parking space, close to snow hill train station and walking distance to the city centre.



BEARWOOD, St Marys Road£625 pcm
A 2 bedroom furnished to suit mid terraced house located in this very popular area of Bearwood. The property offers spacious accommodation with 2 reception rooms, kitchen with appliances, downstairs bathroom with shower over bath, 2 double bedrooms. Private rear garden. On road parking. Available now.



HALESOWEN, Holt Road£595 pcm
A nicely presented refurbished end terraced home, close to local shops. Featuring 3 bedrooms, spacious lounge, fitted kitchen with white goods, bathroom with shower, double glazing, gas central heating, front and rear gardens, driveway and garage, unfurnished.



HALESOWEN, Linden Avenue£595 pcm
Situated in a quiet cul de sac location. A spacious detached bungalow offering good sized accommodation having 2 reception rooms, open plan breakfast/kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom, good sized rear garden, garage/driveway parking. Available now.



HALESOWEN, Victoria Road£575 pcm
A large unfurnished end terrace house, close to local shops and transport links, briefly featuring 4 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, downstairs w.c. & bathroom with shower, gas central heating, driveway parking. Available 6/9/2013.



HALESOWEN, Whitefrairs Drive£575 pcm
An unfurnished mid terraced house, in a popular cul-de-sac, close to Halesowen Town Centre. Featuring central heating, 1 reception room, fitted dining kitchen with appliances, 2 double bedrooms with 1 having fitted wardrobes, bathroom with shower, front and rear gardens, driveway parking.



HALESOWEN, Fairmile Road£525 pcm
Beautifully furnished. Situated in a popular residential area of Halesowen, with easy access to buses to the town. This modern furnished 1st floor apartment comprises 2 double bedrooms, excellent natural light in lounge, modern fitted kitchen, bathroom with a shower, gas central heating, double glazing, garage parking, and communal gardens.



HALESOWEN, Howley Grange Road£495 pcm
An unfurnished split level flat on a sought after road. Ideal for Howley Grange Primary School and for Birmingham. This property features a utility room, fitted kitchen, living room, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower. Benefits also include gas central heating, garden.



CRADLEY HEATH, Mill Road£495 pcm
Located on this very popular Timbertree Estate and ideally situated for local schools and transport links. Comprising 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, modern kitchen, house bathroom with shower, tiered rear garden. On road parking.



CRADLEY HEATH, King Street£475 pcm
Located in the heart of Old Hill with shops and train links close by. This unfurnished top floor modern apartment comprises 2 bedrooms, master bedroom with en-suite, fitted kitchen, lounge, double glazing, electric storage heating, bathroom with shower, allocated parking space.



BRIERLEY HILL, Little John Street£475 pcm
Located within walking distance to Brierley Hill and Merry Hill. This unfurnished modern end terrace house features 2 double bedrooms, gas central heating, fitted kitchen, downstairs wc, spacious living room, bathroom with shower, rear garden, off road parking for 2 cars.



NETHERTON, Round Street£475 pcm
Set in a quiet road, is this lovely semi-detached home. Featuring gas central heating, living room, fitted kitchen, 1 double and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower, rear garden and driveway parking for 2 cars, unfurnished. Popular residential street close to Netherton High Street.



LYE, High Street £450 pcm
Fully refurbished in the centre of Lye. This large and spacious 1st floor apartment has a lovely lounge with a feature bay window, 2 good sized bedrooms, new bathroom suite but no shower, modern and contemporary kitchen with oven and hob, electric heating, double glazing, on road parking.



CRADLEY HEATH, Pear Tree Lane£450 pcm
Modern 1st floor apartment. Situated on a popular development within walking distance of Old Hill train station and shops. Featuring 1 large double bedroom and 1 single, gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted kitchen with small fridge, bathroom with shower, parking space, rear garden.



WORDSLEY, John Street£450 pcm
Close to local buses to Kingswinford, Stourbridge and a short walk from Ambicote. This 2 double bedroom terraced house features 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, house bathroom with shower, on road parking and an enclosed rear garden.



TIPTON, Ferguson Drive£450 pcm
A lovely modern 1st floor apartment, which is ideally located for Wednesbury and Dudley. This great apartment features 2 bedrooms, spacious lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom with shower, electric storage heating, double glazing, 2 allocated parking spaces, communal gardens.



CRADLEY HEATH, Halesowen Road£400 pcm
This value for money unfurnished terraced house, close to Old Hill town centre and Old Hill train station. Featuring 2 bedrooms with fitted wardrobes, gas central heating, 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen with appliances, downstairs bathroom with shower, on road parking, NO REAR GARDEN.

Halesowen Office: Lettings & Property Management 0121 585 6688

Property

Home is situated in a highly regarded area

A TRADITIONALLY styled family home in one of south Walsall's most sought after areas is on the market priced at £295,000.

The house in Skip Lane benefits from gas central heating and uPVC double glazing with many appealing features including a spacious extended lounge, refitted breakfast kitchen and mature rear garden.

It is handy for local shops at Gillity village and with easy access into Walsall town centre and access to the Midlands motorway network as well as being close to schools including Queen Mary's Grammar Integrated.

On the ground floor is a guest cloakroom with WC, a dining room, lounge with feature fireplace and French doors to rear garden and breakfast kitchen with a range of base and wall units, integrated oven, hob and dishwasher with door to a large garage area and utility room with space and plumbing for washer dryer.

On the first floor are three bedrooms and a bathroom with white suite of WC, wash hand basin, panelled bath and separate shower cubicle.

Outside to the front is a neat garden with ample off road driveway parking with to the rear a garden with patio area.

For details call Edwards Moore, 01922 615222.



The traditional house in Skip Lane, Walsall, is on the market for offers based on £295,000 via local estate agent Edwards Moore

Offers in excess of £165,000 invited for semi-detached



Paul Dubberley is handling the sale of this traditional property

THIS traditional three-bed semi-detached house in Banks Street, Willenhall, is on the market with no upward chain based on offers in excess of £165,000.

The property benefits from double glazing, central heating, private rear garden and accommodation briefly comprising of entrance hall, dining room, lounge, modern fitted kitchen, utility, downstairs WC and family bathroom.

On the ground floor the entrance hallway has a Minton tiled floor while the lounge measuring 12ft 6in by 11ft 6in has a gas fire and surround and the dining room is 13ft 6in by 12ft 1in,

Utility

The kitchen, 12ft 5in by 9ft 10in, has a range of wall and base units, work surfaces, one-and-a-half bowl sink drainer with mixer tap, electric hob, oven and an extractor hood.

There is plumbing for dishwasher, with a utility having sink drainer with mixer tap, base unit, work surface, plumbing for washing machine and door to WC.

On the first floor are three bedrooms and a bathroom with bath with electric shower over, pedestal wash hand basin and WC.

Outside is a concrete print patio, gravelled driveway, borders, plants and shrubs. Contact estate agent Paul Dubberley on 01902 633323 for details.

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Oldbury Arden Grove <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Mid terraced house * Tastefully presented and ideal for first time purchaser * Through living room forming lounge & dining area * Fitted kitchen/breakfast room * First floor double bedrooms & bathroom with shower * Attic room * Enclosed garden * Gas boiler heating radiators * Double glazed windows * EPC = D Offers in the region of £99,950	Oldbury Wolverhampton Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Semi Detached House * Extended Kitchen * Two Reception Rooms * Three Bedrooms * Bathroom with Shower Cubicle * Side Garage EPC = D Offers in the region of £174,950	Oldbury Pool Lane <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Detached House * Kitchen/dining room * Through lounge * Downstairs wc * Conservatory * Three Bedrooms (one downstairs) * Side Garage EPC = C Offers in the region of £149,950	Oldbury Rowley Regis Glaslyn Avenue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Mid terraced house * Spacious & tastefully presented with 3 bedrooms * 2 shower rooms & bathroom * Fitted kitchen/breakfast room with balcony * L Shaped lounge/dining area * Utility, enclosed gardens, gas boiler heating radiators * Fitted carpets. * A must view property * EPC = C Offers in the region of £178,950	Halesowen 16A Banners Street <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Modernised end terraced house * 2 bedrooms & 2 reception rooms * Kitchen with oven, hob & hood * Bathroom with shower over bath * UPVC double glazing & GCH * Available from 17th September * EPC = E Monthly rent of £525+ application fee £135 (inc VAT) 1st tenant and £65 (inc VAT) each additional tenant. Deposit required 6 weeks rent.	Cradley Heath 58 Trinity Street <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Spacious end-terraced house * Two double bedrooms * Kitchen with some appliances * Upstairs bathroom with shower * Neutral decor, GCH & DG windows * Private garden & car space * EPC = D * Available from 3rd September 2013 Monthly rent of £495+ application fee £135 (inc VAT) 1st tenant and £65 (inc VAT) each additional tenant. Deposit required 6 weeks rent.	Cradley Heath 34 Spinners End Drive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Neat and tidy ground floor flat * Bedroom with wardrobe * Open-plan lounge/kitchen * Electric heating * Shower room * Allocated car space * View now! * EPC = D Monthly rent of £300+ application fee £135 (inc VAT) 1st tenant and £65 (inc VAT) each additional tenant. Deposit required 6 weeks rent.
Oldbury Bodenham Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Semi-detached house * Kitchen/Dining Room * Off Road Parking * Three bedrooms * Gas boiler serving radiators * Double glazing to windows * Downstairs WC * EPC = E Offers in the region of £112,500	Oldbury Forest Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Deceptively spacious semi * Three good sized bedrooms * Large living room * Dining room * Conservatory * Garage with utility area to rear * Enclosed gardens * EPC = E Offers in the region of £189,950	Oldbury Wolverhampton Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Three bedroom semi detached house * Two reception rooms * In need of general modernisation * No upward chain EPC=E * Side store (potential small side garage) Offers in the region of £99,950	Halesowen Hagley Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Self contained flat * Main accommodation on first floor * Two bedrooms * Allocated parking space * Close to bus stop and shops * EPC = C Offers in the region of £119,950	Halesowen 160B Coombs Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * self contained flat * one bedroom * UPVC double glazed windows * electric heating * rent inclusive of water charges * EPC = E Monthly rent of £399+ application fee £135 (inc VAT) 1st tenant and £65 (inc VAT) each additional tenant. Deposit required 6 weeks rent.	Oldbury Suite 1 Mercer House 780A Hagley Road West <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Well presented * First Floor Single office * Air conditioning/heater * Communal Kitchen and toilets * Set service charge * EPC = G Annual rent of £1,900	Halesowen Hill & Cakemore Conservative & Unionist Club Long Lane EPC = C (Both Club & Flat) *Long Established Social Club *Extensive car park to rear *Bar, function/club room with dance floor *First floor snooker room *Two bedroom Steward's accommodation Offers in the region of £250,000

Motoring

Compiled by Motoring
Editor Sharon Walters

Adding oomph to Focus and Fiesta ST



A Mountune added Focus ST can sprint from 0-62mph in under six seconds



Badge of honour – the logo on the ST models



The power-boosting Ford Fiesta Mountune upgrade costs £599

FORD'S critically acclaimed Focus ST and Fiesta ST hot hatches just got hotter with the introduction of official Mountune upgrades.

The packages are developed by race engine and road-car performance specialist Mountune, and boost output from the Focus ST's 2.0-litre EcoBoost engine to 275PS – 10PS more than a Porsche Boxster which costs £15,000 more (£38,237). Even the legendary Ford Sierra Cosworth RS500 would be left with a rear view of the Mountune-upgraded Focus ST,

which can sprint from 0-62mph in less than six seconds – more than half second faster than the standard Focus ST.

Ford is also offering an official Mountune upgrade for the Fiesta ST, which will increase maximum power to 215PS, enabling 0-62mph acceleration in 6.7sec, compared with 6.9sec on the factory model – faster than a £35,865 Mercedes-Benz SLK 200 AMG Sport.

The Mountune upgrades boost both Focus ST and Fiesta ST in-gear acceleration too. Peak Focus ST torque, heightened to 400Nm, improves 31-62mph acceleration in fourth gear

by 0.8sec to 4.9sec, while peak Fiesta ST torque, enhanced to 320Nm, improves 31-62 mph acceleration in fourth gear by 0.7sec to 5.7sec. Any of the UK's 120 Mountune-appointed Ford dealers will be able to fit the upgrade – in under 60 minutes for the Fiesta ST, and less than 90 minutes for the Focus ST.

Modified

Both are fully compatible with the Ford warranty, meaning Mountune modified vehicles continue to be covered against mechanical failure for three years or 60,000 miles from the original date of purchase.

"Ford's ST models already deliver blistering performance – for these Mountune upgrades we have squeezed out every last drop of fun and served it on a plate to the fans that are as passionate about performance as we are," said Tyrone Johnson, Ford Team RS engineering manager.

The Focus ST Mountune upgrade includes a cast alloy inlet duct (silver or black powder coat finish), high-flow air filter element, larger alloy intercooler (silver or black powder coat finish) and unique calibration. The Fiesta ST version has a re-modelled air box base with secondary

inlet duct, a high-flow filter element and unique calibration.

The Focus ST Mountune upgrade, at £1,225 for silver and £1,275 for black, still means the boosted Focus costs less than a standard Volkswagen Golf GTi. The Fiesta ST Mountune upgrade costs £599, with the finished Fiesta costing less than both the standard Peugeot 208 GTi and Renaultsport Clio 200 Turbo.

"We worked hand-in-hand with Ford engineers to deliver what we believe is the best bang-for-buck value on the market," said David Moore, Mountune marketing manager.

Your essential guide to the world of motoring

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Motoring



The value-for-money Perodua Myvi SXI benefits from a high specification as standard

You can buy Perodua Myvi SXI with interest-free finance offer

PERODUA has announced that customers purchasing a brand new Myvi SXI before the end of September can now take advantage of interest-free finance.

The offer gives Myvi SXI customers the option of spreading payment of their new car over 24 months, subject to a 50 per cent deposit of £3,499.50, followed by 23 payments of £145.81 and one final payment of £145.81.

This finance offer includes the £1,000 retail incentive, which is currently available across the Myvi range, giving an on-the-road price of just £6,999.

Myvi benefits from a high specification as standard, making it great value for money.

Equipment found across the Myvi range includes electrically adjustable colour-matched door mirrors, air conditioning, colour-matched door handles and bumpers, four electric windows, and an integral radio/CD player, plus much more.

To take advantage of the interest-free finance offer or any other special offer currently available from Perodua, customers should visit their local dealer to obtain further information and to find out more about the Myvi super-mini.

Customers can locate their nearest dealer by visiting www.peroduauk.com

or by calling Perodua UK on 01491 415230.

Finance – representative example

Cash Price: £6,999

Deposit: £3,499

Amount of credit: £3,499.50

Credit facility fee: £0

Option to purchase fee: £0

Interest: £0

Total charge for credit: £0

Total amount payable: £6,999

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Finance Example - Cash Price £4995, Less Cash or Part Exchange Deposit £500, Amount of Credit £4495, Total Amount Payable £5999.20, 60 Monthly Payments of £99.99 or 260 Weekly Payments of £23.04.

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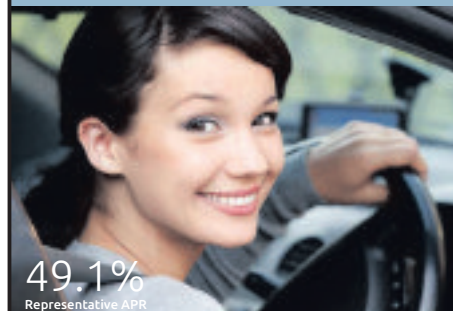
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Motoring



The Volkswagen Jetta Limited Edition is based on the SE model and is priced at £20,750 on the road

The limited Edition VW Jetta offers great value for money

WITH its smooth ride, spacious interior, cavernous 510-litre boot and terrific towing ability, the Volkswagen Jetta has always been a great car in which to 'jet' away.

Now it offers better value than ever, thanks to the introduction of the Jetta Limited Edition.

Based on the popular Jetta SE, the Jetta Limited Edition packs in £2,900-worth of extra equipment for a premium of just £160. Only 450 of these models are available, and they are in Volkswagen retailers now at a price of £20,750 RRP OTR.

Every Jetta Limited Edition comes with a super-frugal 1.6-litre 105 PS TDI engine with BlueMotion Technol-

ogy and a five-speed gearbox, returning 67.3mpg on the combined cycle and emitting just 105 g/km of CO₂, meaning it qualifies for free first-year VED, and just £20 per annum thereafter.

But while it might be miserly at the pumps, the Jetta Limited Edition doesn't skimp on the luxuries.

Multi-function

Standard SE features include a leather-trimmed handbrake, gearknob and multi-function steering wheel, DAB digital radio, Bluetooth telephone connectivity, USB and iPod audio connections and cruise control. On top of these, the Jetta Limited Edition adds Volkswagen's RNS 315 touchscreen satellite navigation system, front fog lights, front and rear parking sensors,

rear tinted glass, 16in 'Perth' alloys and a Convenience Pack consisting of an auto-dimming rear-view mirror, electrically foldable door mirrors with puddle lights, and automatic head-lights and windscreen wipers.

The Jetta Limited Edition comes in three colours: Deep Black Pearl, Reflex Silver or Platinum Grey Metallic.

The Volkswagen Jetta Sport 2.0-litre TDI DSG was voted The Caravan Club Towcar of the Year 2012 and 2013. It is the only car to have won this prestigious title for two consecutive years. The Jetta Limited Edition has a towing capacity of 1,400kg (braked, 12 per cent incline), with a maximum noseweight capacity of 75 kg. To find out more, visit your local Volkswagen retailer - www.volkswagen.co.uk/find-a-retailer

Sporty Octavia is a great combination

DELIVERING the perfect combination of sportiness, space and functionality, the new Octavia vRS takes Skoda performance to a new level. And with prices starting from £22,990, it also sets new standards for value.

Based on the acclaimed third-generation Octavia launched earlier this year, the new Octavia vRS model made its world debut at the 2013 Goodwood Festival of Speed, showcasing a host of engineering innovations, dramatic design and pulse-quickenning performance.

Equipped with a host of standard features designed to fully exploit the car's performance potential, the new Octavia vRS is set to continue the UK's love affair with the vRS badge. With new technologies combining to make the car lighter and more affordable to run, the new model is the most complete vRS package ever offered.

Engineering

"The new Octavia vRS has a very special place in the heart of everyone at Skoda, says Alasdair Stewart, brand director Skoda UK.

"It unites our love of motorsport, sharp design and bold engineering, and is one of the most exciting cars we've ever made. We're confident that the new Octavia's unique mix of space, practicality and performance give it a real edge in an area of the market where we have enjoyed fantastic growth over recent years."

Offered in both hatchback and estate forms, the new Octavia vRS's



The estate delivers 610 litres of luggage room with seats in position

bold, motorsport-inspired design pays homage to its legendary predecessors. Despite its obvious sporting ambitions, the new Octavia vRS is as practical and clever as the award-winning standard models.

The hatch offers 590 litres of boot space with the rear seats in position, while the estate delivers 610 litres of luggage room. With the rear seats folded, the figures rise to 1,580 litres and 1,740 litres respectively.

At the heart of the new Octavia vRS is an engine line-up that is as powerful and exciting as it is frugal and clean. Two advanced powerplants are available: a 2.0 TSI petrol that generates 220PS, and the most powerful diesel engine ever to be offered in an Octavia

in the form of a 2.0 TDI 184PS. Both are available with the choice of a six-speed manual transmission or a DSG automatic.

To allow drivers to fully exploit the vRS's performance potential, Skoda has engineered a new chassis set-up that features a lowered ride height (12mm hatch, 13mm estate) and advanced multi-link rear suspension design.

Electronic differential lock (XDS) is fully integrated into the Octavia's electronic stability control (ESC) system, and helps improve traction in corners. The new Octavia also introduces a new progressive steering system that varies the amount of lock required according to road speed.

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Models shown for illustrative purposes: Jazz 1.4 i-VTEC Si Manual in optional White Orchid Pearl, Civic 1.8 i-VTEC EX GT Manual in Milano Red with optional 18-inch Krypton alloy wheels and CR-V 2.2 i-DTEC EX in optional Crystal Black Pearl.

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4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if horses have the required Passport information.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

pets corner

NOTICE TO READERS Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer.

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.

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3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

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01588 676106.

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6 Property

accommodation to let

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AMBLECOTE Stourbridge, 2bed flat, unfurnished, GCH, parking, deposit/refs required £400pcm. 01384 444922 Office hours.

FLAT Quarry Bank, Brierley Hill, 2-beds, ground floor living accommodation, garden, secure parking, part furnished. 01384 638421.

ONE BED FLAT Willenhall town centre, £90pw. Deposit required. 07976 78303. No texts.

ONE/TWO BED flats to let, Chapel Ash, Penn Fields, CH, DSS ok, £340pcm. 07718 896058.

flats for sale

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CITROEN C4 VTR 08 Petrol, silver, MoT, Taxed, 36.8k, C/C, A/C, beautiful condition, £4,500 ono. 07880 67491 / 01902 847139.

FORD FIESTA
Zetec Climate 1.25, red, 57 reg, 39k, E/W, E/M, A/C, C/L, SH, good condition, lady owner.
£3,700 ono.
07792 210806.

FORD FOCUS SPORT, 2011, Cat D, blue, 9,600 miles, excellent condition, £5,650.
01922 453513 or 07811 197633.

LANDROVER FREELANDER 2003 reg, 3dr, met green, diesel, 75k, Bridgestone tyres, recent new clutch, MoT April 14, tax end August, £3,600 ono.
07944 024604.

MG TF 1.8 135 Convertible, 2003, grey, MoT Jul 14, tax Dec, excellent condition, 57k, private number plate inc, £2,099. 07971 120296.

IMMACULATE

PEUGEOT 206
2007, 22,700 miles, metallic red, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, alarm, metallic paint, central locking, gas, stereo, CD, petrol, tax Sept, MoT history, excellent condition, 1 previous owner.
£3,250.
07954 357326.

VAUXHALL TIGRA 1.4 Convertible, 06, 48k, met blue, tax, MoT, alloys, leather interior, heated seats, excellent, £2,995. 07931 002383.

VOLVO C70 CONVERTIBLE

2.4 AUTO
04 reg, metallic gold with grey leather interior, 53,000 miles, SH, MoT and tax, car is in immaculate condition in/out. Must be viewed.
£3,750.
01902 673406 / 07799 203285.

VW GOLF V.6 4 MOTION
2001, 6 months tax, 12 months MoT, SH, many extras including hands free, sat nav, 6 multi disc, full leather, heated seats, private plate M9 SC1 electric SR, £1,800 ono. 07753 746378 or 01922 412569.

VW T4 MULTIVAN. 2.5 TDI
159bhp, 1998, 152k, FSH and documented receipts totalling over 25k since vehicle was new. Includes 4 berth awning with cooker and stand.
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cars under £1500

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that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

BMW 323CI, E46 Coupe, W reg, 96,000 miles, blue, needs MoT hence £650. 07951 510665.

BMW 328i 1995, Alpina spec, 12 months MoT, taxed till end of September, £795 ono. 07888 652034.

FIAT PUNTO 1.2, V reg, 12 months MoT, tax, petrol, red, EW, CD, great runner, ideal first car, 70k miles, £500 ono. 01902 786361.

FORD FIESTA Flight, 1.3, 2002, tax and MoT, 3 door, silver, alloys, ideal first car, £725 ono. 0754 2128911 or 07411 022912.

FORD KA, 2002, 52, 59,000 miles, duratec engine silver, air bag, long MoT, tax, metallic paint, pas, c/c bumpers, £925 ono.
07870 582965.

FORD KA 2002, 69,540 miles, red, full MoT.
£700 ono.
01902 834831.

MAZDA MX5 Mark 1, 1800cc, P reg, excellent condition, brilliant red, MoT Feb, no tax, £825 ono.
07966 595853 Wem

MERCEDES BENZ E200 Saloon, FSH, 1997, Automatic, 82,757 miles, excellent condition, £999. 01902 620061.

★ **MG F CONVERTABLE**, 1998, 80k, MoT June 2014, tax, leather interior, hard top, alloy wheels, private plate, good condition, £1,150 ono.
01384 270259.

MG ZS, hatchback, 2003, long MoT and tax, manual, alloys, stereo, £795. 07950 398750.



MITSUBISHI PAJERO
Exceed 2.5 Diesel Automatic 4x4, LWB, 1991, 7 seater, AC, tow-bar, CD, luxury pack, leather, new tax, long MoT, wonderful condition, bargain £1,375.
07748 168381

NISSAN ALMERA 1.5SE, 2003, 8 months MoT, lady owner, 76,000 miles, good condition, £1,175 ono. 07815 424136.

PEUGEOT 106 Quicksilver, 1.4, V reg, silver, alloy wheels, MoT, sunroof, spoiler, ideal first car, £850. 07791 897255.

PEUGEOT 306, 1999, 82,000 miles, long MoT, pas, diesel, tax, £525 ono. 01902 721950

PEUGEOT 406 Rapier, HDi 90 older shape, MoT April 14, 86,000 miles, good condition, £750 ono. 07411 060504.

RENAULT LAGUNA Estate, diesel, 2004, tax, MoT, clean, £550.
07935 856408.

RENAULT MEGANE 2001 Coupe, 1.4, dark blue, immaculate car, tax, MoT, 30k, E/W, alloys, CD, rear spoiler, £850 ono. 07593 856066.

RENAULT MEGANE SDi, 1.4, 2001, older shape, MoT April 14, 86,000 miles, good condition, £495. 07721 061585.

RENAULT MEGANE COUPE PRIVILEGE PLUS
2001, 72,734 miles, silver, long MoT, tax, alloys, full leather interior, petrol, lady owner from 2002.
£1,250.
07583 638453.

SEAT LEON 1.6 2005, 84k, blue, ABS, FSH, alarm, MoT, central locking, cruise control, pas, tax, alloys, £3,000 ono. 01902 780052

TOYOTA COROLLA, T3, VVTR, 5 MoT, tax, petrol, red, EW, CD, great runner, ideal first car, 70k miles, £1,400 ono. 01562 731324.

VAUXHALL VECTRA Elegance 2.2 DTI Auto, 2003, black, Tax, MoT, Top spec plus Economy £1,200 ono. 07970 56026

VW PASSAT, 2001, 100,000 miles, green metallic, MoT, auto, tax, petrol, £850. 01902 847906.

classic cars

MGB AND ROVER P6 Both restored. MoT's, £2,000 and £2,250 ono. 0121 5747066.

TRIUMPH TR6 1971, tax exempt, long MoT, good condition, overdrive, £18,000. 01384 824956 or 07841 516227.

commercial vehicles

FORD TRANSIT DIESEL VAN
1999, 2.5 engine, 9 months MoT, tax till end of August.
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Selected weekend departures

Saturday Night from £129.⁹⁵ **Dine and Dance from £139.⁹⁵**

Take in a top West End show and have some free time in London for shopping and sightseeing. For the Dine and Dance option see the matinee performance before heading back to the hotel for dinner and disco (conditions apply). For the Saturday Night option see the evening performance. For both breaks the price includes a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel, with full English breakfast (plus dinner for Dine and Dance options). Pick ups offered are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

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These popular theatre packages to the West End depart from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton on the Friday morning returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening. Standard class travel is included with the option to upgrade. Two nights stay at a three or four-star London hotel of your choice (hotel supplements may apply) and a top priced ticket for a Friday evening performance for the Theatre Showstopper package or choose your price band for the Saturday evening performance with the Theatre Weekend package.

*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details.
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For a theatre brochure please call the promotions team on (01902) 319999 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm), or go to expressandstar.com/starextratravel

Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions

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motorbikes

HONDA VFR750 tax April 14, MoT Oct, good condition, private plate (Baz), first to see will buy, £1,100 ono. 07730 596969.

HYOSUNG GV 250 Aquila, 09 reg, 7,000 miles, tax and MoT till March 2014, £1,700 ono. 01502 637676 (Kidderminster).

KAWASAKI Z1000, 07 reg, 6,500 miles from new, 1 owner, carbon cans, hugger and back, £4,000 ono. Telephone 01384 236302.

PIAGGIO SCOOTER 50cc, tax/MoT February 14, ideal first motorcycle, £800 ono. 07730 596969.

PIAGGIO ZIP 50CC 1 year old, low mileage, Very good condition, £800 ono. 01384 628092 or 07882 426557.

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9
Local
Information

public & legal notices

DAVID MALCOLM THOMAS (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 59 Timbertree Crescent Cradley Heath West Midlands B64 7ND, who died on 24/12/2012, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 08/11/2013, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
mfg Solicitors LLP
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LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
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(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

10
Personals

general

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

personal

ATTRACTIVE MALE 53
Kind, loyal and caring, OHAC, WLTM attractive female 48 - 55 for long term relationship who enjoys weekends away and holidays abroad.
Photo please, returned.
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CUDDLY SINGLE MOM, 40
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GENTLEMAN, LATE 50'S
Seeking a lady between 40-55 for a long term relationship. I'm a very kind and trustworthy person, I live on my own and am self employed. I'm very outgoing. I enjoy walking, going out for meals and going on holiday. It would be nice to have someone to share these things with.

Genuine replies only please. If possible a recent photo would be appreciated.
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LADY 62
WLTM Gentleman of similar age.

N/S, with GSOH who enjoys walking, meals out and holidays.
For Friendship / Possible long term relationship.
From Stourbridge and surrounding areas.

Box Number P18770, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

SLIM ATTRACTIVE MAN
50, caring, good sense of humour, likes country walks and meals out and good conversation.

Would like to meet lady 40-55 for evenings out and friendship.
Box Number P18769, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

sports clubs

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New season starts Sunday, September 1, 2013. Open Class 2pm - 4pm, at
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Classes every Sunday for aged 4 years upwards.

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(Year 9, September 2013.)

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Rivals are defeated as George lift trophy

**Warwick & Worcester Premier Cup Final
The George 160
Greville 134**

IN front of a good crowd The George first team defeated rivals Greville to take the W&W Premier Cup and earn a place in next year's British Team Championship.

Wins by Pete Davenport (21-12), Steve Darling (21-17) and Marc Wilson (21-19) saw The George lead by eight shots at halfway.

The George pulled away in the second half after wins by Steve Dicken, Elliot McGuinness and Phil Clinton to complete a 26-shot victory.

**W&W Premier Division 1
The George 252
Brookhill 133**

The First team recorded a big 119-shot home win against Brookhill having all 12 winners in the match.

**S-Staffs Premier Division
M&M Cheslyn Hay 236
The George 158**

Despite going down to a 76 shot defeat, the second team picked up four valuable points in their relegation fight. Wins came from Lee Dicken (21-9) and Martin McGuinness (21-17) plus 21-20 wins from Adrian Ford and Ray Broadfield.

**W&W Alliance Division 3
Lea Hall 211
The George 213**

The Third team clinched the league title with this two-shot victory.

Blackbird's loss costly as run ends

DUDLEY saw their winning record in the National League come to an end as they went down 49-41 at Kent.

With No.1 Lewis Blackbird missing due to Premier League commitments, the Heathens were unable to snatch a point from Central Park after eight consecutive league wins.

Although Ashley Morris and Paul Starke made double figures, the visitors managed only three race wins without their No.1.

Dan Greenwood and Gareth Isherwood put in solid displays but the Heathens lacked firepower.

KENT 49: Ben Morley 12, David Mason 10+2, Jack Kingston 10, Steve Boxall 7, Benji Compton 7, Adam Kirby 2, Connor Coles 1.

DUDLEY 41: Paul Starke 13, Ashley Morris 10+1, Dan Greenwood 6+2, Gareth Isherwood 5+1, Nathan Greaves 4+2, Max Clegg 3+1, Lewis Blackbird R/R.

Back on track after a convincing win

Speedway

really happy with my own performance."

Dudley stormed into a 10-point lead in the opening five races – and any hopes of an Isle of Wight comeback were all but extinguished when Adam Ellis fell while challenging Blackbird for the lead as he took a tactical ride in heat six.

Although Blackbird and Morris were the star men for the home side, they received magnificent support from all areas of the side.

Paul Starke put in a classy

display as usual to make double figures – whilst Max Clegg and Dan Greenwood also suffered just one defeat apiece with the latter in particular enjoying a confidence-boosting evening.

Chipped

Middle order man Gareth Isherwood chipped away to contribute vital points and although Nathan Greaves endured a nightmare evening his troubles were comfortably covered by his in-form teammates.

Team boss, Will Pottinger said: "It was a lot easier than we were

expecting in the end against a side tipped by many to finish top of the league at the start of the season. It was good to put right our loss against Kent, and it was an excellent performance from all the boys.

"It's good to put in another great showing to keep building our confidence and also add three more league points as we look to finish top of the table."

Dudley 60: Lewis Blackbird 15, Ashley Morris 12+3, Paul Starke 11, Max Clegg 9, Dan Greenwood 8+3, Gareth Isherwood 5+2, Nathan Greaves 0.

Isle of Wight 31: Adam Ellis 9, Tom Perry 8, Darryl Ritchings 4+1, Brendan Johnson 4, Chris Widman 3+2, Danny Stoneham 3+1, Ben Hopwood R/R.

Fine start but firsts lose out in derby

**Stourbridge 1st XI 178-3
Halesowen 1st XI 177-8
Stourbridge win**

AFTER losing to Oswestry the prospects were brighter of winning the local derby against Halesowen 1st XI.

Halesowen openers Hassan Quami and Mohammed Ishtiaq looked in form until, against the run of play, good fielding resulted in the run out of Quami for 21.

The turning point came when the 17-year-old pace-man, Ali Shah had the opener Ishtiaq caught for 62 and with the score remaining on 117 bowled Mohammad Shaub for 11.

Stour continued their dominance taking five opposition wickets for 145. Rameez Pinjara (17), Wes Griffiths (18) and Charles Tromans helped their side bat out the allocated 50 overs eight wickets down.

An opening stand of 104 between Alex Bingham and James Lawley saw Stour cruising.

Lawley was first to go LBW to the spinner Rameez Pinjara for 26, the same bowler accounted for Bingham caught for 72. Audy Alexander (31) and Josh Banks (20) both not out saw their side to victory in the 37th over.

We can do better, says boss Kenny

KENNY JACKETT topped the table for the first time in charge of Wolves but promised supporters: "We can play better."

The Molineux club hit the top of League One with a 2-1 victory over Crawley on Friday.

It was a hard-earned third win in a row clinched by a dramatic late penalty.

But it was a game head coach Jackett conceded had been unkind to an impressive Crawley outfit who offered an early signal to Wolves that this campaign will not be without difficult challenges.

Jackett said: "Sometimes you have to find a way to win a game and I felt we did that."

"Winning three in a row in any level of football is not to be sniffed at and we're delighted with that."

"But we will be honest and concise about our performance – we know we can play better. I don't think it was a question of complacency."

Pemberton is saviour as Tipton grab a draw

Tipton Town 1 Rokester 1

TIPTON had James Pemberton to thank for avoiding defeat after spurning at least a dozen golden chances to comfortably take three points.

Despite having the majority of the possession and carving out chance after chance, Tipton were undone when one of Rokester's rare excursions into the home half earned them an equaliser. Tipton took the lead before the half hour when

Joe Rogers – playing against his former club – headed home from a Rabone cross.

Just minutes later the same player found himself in another goalscoring position but Smith produced an excellent save to keep the deficit to a single goal.

Just after the half hour, Nisbett and Mensah Kinch combined to carve open a chance but with the goal at his mercy, Kinch fluffed his lines and put the ball wide.

Two more great saves saw Smith deny Raybone on 35 minutes from a Joe Rogers cross and then Danny Ashton just before half time, giving the home side a slender advantage at the interval.

The second half saw Tipton's profligate approach continue where it had left off.

On 51 minutes Nisbett failed to convert from close range and Raybones follow up was chalked off for offside.

Probably the best chance of the second half saw Nisbett race clear through the defence, only to take an unusual decision to round the keeper instead of shoot-

Tipton Town

ing and finding himself running out of pitch.

On 75 minutes, Raybone surged down the left, doing well to carve out another opportunity for himself which – summing up the performance – he blazed over the cross-bar.

And three minutes later, a rare attack by Rokester saw them grab an equaliser when substitute Tom Cooper-Richards beat Pemberton to a header on the edge of the penalty area from a hopeful ball and Paul Henley's desperate attempt at a clearance on the line couldn't stop the ball trickling home for the equaliser.

Tipton set about seeking redress and had a goal disallowed by Henley from a corner for pushing on 84 minutes.

But it was Rokester who almost grabbed the most unlikely of victories on 90 minutes when Pemberton needed to be on his toes to deny Cooper-Richards a winner, producing a great block from the angle.

It's a high five for Yeltz Ladies during warm-up



Rachel Letford being pursued as she heads for goal to score for Halesowen Ladies against Bradwell

Bradwell 0 Halesowen 5

WITH some key players back the Yeltz crew were looking good as they headed to take on Bradwell.

Halesowen started a bit too quick and the ball was kicked around hastily, but as Rachel Letford scored with a through-ball by Sarah Hamill on eight minutes, The Yeltz began to settle in.

Good work on the left by Sophie

Richards found Gemma Moss who scored within 10 minutes of the restart.

The Yeltz defence dealt with anything thrown at them, it was good to see them using Hannah Tromans the keeper as a fifth defender.

Right and left backs Jo Butler and Lauren Affron got forward to assist the strikers, Dominique McKee Lauren Gilbert were very strong as the centre backs.

Girl of the game, Sian Whithall, scored within 10 minutes of the restart.

Then Whithall turned provider to the in-form Haley Chatters.

The goal of the game came as Gilberto passed the ball to Richards who fired from 25 yards out. Manager Scott McKee said: "Bring on the season, we're in great shape and can't wait for it to start."

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Tipton saved
Pemberton keeps
his side from defeat
Page 39

Five alive
Yeltz ladies hand
out a mauling
Page 39



Leaders up next as Hayes win point

**Walsall Wood 1
Heath Hayes 1**

THIS keenly-fought local derby ended all square after a game that was never a classic, but had enough action to keep a good-sized holiday crowd interested until the end.

There was little goal-mouth action in the first half with two tame headers from Dan Lomas and Tom Green from Hayes. The Wood's only worthwhile effort came from Craig Hancock.

The half did end rather controversially when the referee ignored strong Wood appeals that Adam Jenkins brought down Ahmet Bilgimer on the edge of the box.

After a period of sustained pressure Hayes finally made the breakthrough on 58 minutes when Mitch Teece fired home superbly from 25 yards. But Wood were level within five minutes.

A right wing corner from Andre Gonzales found the head of Lee Stretton. His effort was fumbled by Jenkins but Stretton was first to react to the loose ball and prodded it into the net.

Hayes skipper Adam Robinson put in a man of the match performance to inspire his young teammates and they thoroughly deserved their first away point of the season.

On Saturday Hayes have a rearranged home fixture against league leaders Highgate United.

Loan switch for Boukari

WOLVES midfielder Razak Boukari has this week completed his season-long loan to FC Sochaux - exactly a year since he arrived at Molineux in a £2.5m switch.

The Togo winger passed his medical in France last week, but failed to agree terms.

However, after a round of fresh talks, the 26-year-old has now completed the paperwork in order to be unveiled by the Ligue 1 outfit.

Boukari was signed by former boss Stale Solbakken from Rennes but made only four league appearances before his season was ended by a persistent calf injury.

His departure means Wolves have succeeded in removing another player from their wage bill.

Kevin Doyle and Bakary Sako are the remaining stars whose future remains unclear ahead of the end of the transfer window.

I needed more time at Wolves, says ex-boss



Dean Saunders

SACKED boss Dean Saunders broke his silence on losing the Wolves job after relegation and claimed he should have been given more time.

Saunders, who was axed within 48 hours of the club's slide into League One, spoke for the first time over the weekend about the decision.

The 49-year-old replaced Stale Solbakken in January of this year, but he was unable to prevent a second successive relegation after winning only five of his 20 games in charge.

Saunders was always a contentious appointment by owner

Wolves

Steve Morgan after the former Villa striker had been relegated with Doncaster the year before.

But he said: "It wasn't what I thought it was going to be. I obviously have to be careful what I say because you have to sign little bits of paper to get paid. I'm just disappointed I never really got the chance to do what I wanted to do."

"I went to Wrexham when it was in a bit of a mess, it took me two and

a half years to turn that club around. I got them to the top of the league in the end, then I went to Doncaster and it took me less time, 18 months.

"It takes time. I went to Wolves and I didn't spend a penny, and I lasted three and a half months or whatever it was, so I'm disappointed about that but I have to just regroup and not let it affect my self-belief and wait for the next job."

Saunders admitted that he was hoping to be given the task of leading Wolves back to the Championship - a job subsequently handed

to Kenny Jackett. He said injuries had played a key role in the downfall of his team and his regime.

"We got it going. We won five out of six and I know it sounds like I'm making a load of excuses, but we got a lot of injuries towards the end. Bakary Sako, Dave Edwards, David Davis and Carl Ikeme," he added.

"We ended up not getting enough points and as well as that all the teams around us kept on winning. I'm disappointed with what happened but I would have liked the chance to put it right."

Jackett no pressure for sales

KENNY JACKETT says there is no financial necessity for Wolves to sell Kevin Doyle or Bakary Sako.

The duo have been linked with moves away from Molineux all summer but have started the League One season impressively.

Jackett's response comes as Wolves braced themselves for a bid for Sako from Nottingham Forest.

In a local newspaper poll, in which thousands of fans voted, more than 90 per cent said they would prefer the duo to stay, despite the financial burden their wages might place on the club.

Both are among the top earners, with Doyle on an estimated £40,000 a week, while Sako's weekly wage is thought to be in the region of £25,000.

But Jackett is under no pressure to get either off the wage bill and says the club will only sell if another club matches Wolves' valuation.

"They are both in the team and that's a good thing," he said. "Their performances have been good, as have those of the whole side."

"They do attract some speculation but really, from my point of view, they are part of the group."

"We will see how their standard of play continues, he added.

Dudley's hopes for Cup dashed

Dudley T 1 Shawbury Utd 2 STRIKER Dave Howarth scored two for Shawbury to dash Dudley Town's hopes in their FA Cup extra-preliminary round replay at The Dell Stadium.

Howarth opened the scoring, but Geoff Hill hit back to put Dudley back in the hunt, only for Howarth to strike again. The winners now face Newcastle Town.

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QUICK-FIRING YELTZ CANE THE SCHOLARS

Chasetown 1 Halesowen Town 3

HALESOWEN handed Chasetown their third defeat in a row as three quick-fire goals from the Yeltz wrapped up the bank holiday fixture in the first half.

After a fairly even first 20 minutes when neither goalkeeper was seriously threatened, the game came to life.

Chris Slater was adjudged to have tripped Chris Lait with the referee having no hesitation pointing to the penalty spot.

Neil Mackenzie stepped up and put an inch perfect spot kick inside Ryan Price's left post.

Within a minute, Halesowen doubled their lead with last season's hotshot Ben Haseley netting from close range. The game was over as a contest eight minutes before the interval.

Acres

Price did well to keep out a header, low to his right, but Elliot Turner was in acres of space at the far post to steer home the rebound.

Jean Gueyies almost made it four when he out-stripped Richard Teesdale for pace and fired over the crossbar in a one-sided fixture.

The Scholars did begin to get the ball down and play a bit better in the second period.

It took more than an hour for visiting number one Paul Evans to make a save, and that was routine for him, getting down to hold onto a Paul Sullivan shot.

Nigel Penney flashed a header wide from a Mackenzie free kick and then Price prevented Haseley from adding his second with a

The Yeltz

decent save to his right.

Chasetown did manage to score for the fourth game in a row though, netting a stoppage time consolation goal from Paul Sullivan.

Halesowen Town manager John Hill was quick to praise his team after a disappointing start to the season, results-wise: "Today was a good turn around after a couple of losses," he said.

"We've picked up injuries and made individual mistakes so far this season. We've had square pegs in round holes with players playing out of position today, so to come here against one of the favourites for the league and get a result is testimony to the players we have here."

Scholars' boss Craig Harris said: "We were second best in the first half and Halesowen were out of sight by the time we improved."

Chasetown: Price, Farmer, Tesla Robinson, Slater, Beckett, Teesdale, Butler, Bragoli (Westwood, 83 mins), Wellicome (Hay, 66 mins), Sullivan, Stephens (Downing, 22 mins).

Other Subs: Keenan, Watson (not used).

Halesowen Town: Evans, Green, Meacham, Mackenzie (Fuloway, 86 mins), Martin, Kelly, Turner (Penney, 76 mins), Tonks, Lait (Griffiths, 66 mins), Haseley, Gueyies.

Other Subs: Brady, Pearson (not used).



Halesowen player being chased down by The Scholar's Tesla Robinson during The Yeltz's 3-1 away victory

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